

## ***What is The Rwanda School Project?***

In 1994, Rwanda was engulfed in a genocide in which 800,000 people were killed in 90 days under a Nazi-like regime. The world stood by.

Today, Rwanda's government has expressed a need for secondary education, citing it as one of the top five priorities in the next ten years, but lacking the needed funds. There is a call for leadership by young people with strong critical thinking skills, sound academic and moral training, good science and math ability and a good understanding of teamwork and self-discipline.

The Lutheran Church of Rwanda is working with local congregations to rebuild communities. We plan to establish a Junior-Senior High School in a rural area of eastern Rwanda for girls and boys. In the High School, classes will be taught in English. Total size will be small, with about 400 students.

The school will strive to maintain a diverse population of students and teachers who represent both Rwanda's population and the international community and both high and low income. Some students may continue to university but those who wish to finish their education with a high school diploma or trade school will also be encouraged.

## **Contact Information**

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The Rwanda School Project founder Robin Strickler and her husband, Rev. John Rutsindintwarane, a Lutheran pastor from Rwanda. Robin has an M.A. in English and 20 years of teaching and administrative experience. They will move to Rwanda in 2006.

The Rwanda School Project  
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Visit us at:

[www.rwandaschoolproject.org](http://www.rwandaschoolproject.org)



***A decade ago it was dangerous just to exist. Now she has a chance to build a better future.***

***Be a part of something life-changing.***



## THE RWANDA SCHOOL PROJECT

*Based on Expeditionary Learning, some features include:*

- small adult-student groups that build strong student-student and student-staff relationships
- cross-disciplinary “expeditions” which require problem-solving, individual and group work, rigorous evaluation
- emphasis on physical health habits as well as academic skills
- appreciation of the natural world and experiences in nature
- community service that is built into curriculum in expeditions
- diversity (cultural, economic, religious) that helps students to appreciate a world with social differences
- evaluation of social skills (teamwork, leadership, sense of fairness, kindness to others, perseverance, etc.)

See [www.clob.org](http://www.clob.org) for more details.

*Environmental sustainability is part of being socially responsible.*

Because Southeastern Rwanda is not served with water or electricity infrastructure and because erosion and careful water use are significant concerns, it behooves us to develop independent and self-sustaining systems. Our building design will include water catchment systems, solar power, passive lighting, and permaculture gardens, which will serve both as food supplement and agricultural “lab”. This leads to our curriculum, which will focus heavily on concepts of sustainability and careers which relate to sustainable development. Graduates will be prepared to lead Rwandan communities in sustainable projects.

### *Quick Rwanda facts*

- Population: about 9 million
- Size: similar to Maryland
- Borders: Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi and Congo
- Capital: Kigali
- Geography and Climate: mountainous (4000 to 8000 feet), mid-80’s in the daytime and mid-50’s at night

- Official Languages: Kinyarwanda, French, English
- Religions: Christian – 93%, Muslim – 5%, Other – 2%

## **Help to make it happen!**

### • *Donate in-kind*

Whether it’s computers, textbooks, solar panels, internet technology, or frequent-flyer miles, your donation of in-kind materials can help us. Contact us if you have an idea about materials that might assist us in reaching our goal.

### • *Be a founding donor*

Rwandans have shown tremendous energy in rebuilding their country and there are many indicators of success: the country is peaceful, corruption has decreased and the parliament has the highest percentage of women members in the world. However, rebuilding infrastructure and human capacity takes time and money. Your generous gift can help us launch this project of education for bright young Rwandans who otherwise would not be able to attend school. Send your tax deductible donation to:

