



Institute for
Transformational
Leadership
Since 2004

NEWSLETTER



July/August 2026

**Discover - Empower -
Serve**

"Confession is a difficult Discipline for us because we all too often view the believing community as a fellowship of saints before we see it as a fellowship of sinners. We feel that everyone else has advanced so far into holiness that we are isolated and alone in our sin. We cannot bear to reveal our failures and shortcomings to others. We imagine that we are the only ones who have not stepped onto the high road to heaven. Therefore, we hide ourselves from one another and live in veiled lies and hypocrisy.

But if we know that the people of God are first a fellowship of sinners, we are freed to hear the unconditional call of God's love and to confess our needs openly before our brothers and sisters. We know we are not alone in our sin. The fear and pride that cling to us like barnacles cling to others also. We are sinners together. In acts of mutual confession we release the power that heals. Our humanity is no longer denied, but transformed."

— Richard J. Foster,
Celebration of Discipline:
The Path to Spiritual Growth

HERE'S WHAT TO EXPECT IN THIS EDITION

- [ALICT 2026 TESTIMONIES](#)
- [ALUMNI IMPACT STORIES](#)
- [JOIN OUR FIRST EVER ONLINE EVENT](#)
- [LOCAL LENS: BURKINA FASO](#)
- [HOW TO GET INVOLVED](#)



ALICT 2026 Class already experiencing transformation within

“ The first month of ALICT 2026 has flown by, what a month it has been! Let's hear from some of ALICT 2026 participants about their experience so far.

“God has been showing me some things about my character this past month that must be changed to serve others better. I have died to myself and will continue to die to myself, for the purpose of seeking the kingdom of God.”



*Danha, serves people living with disabilities and their families, while also helping mobilise the church for transcultural mission in **Chile**.*

“During my first month at ALICT, God has already shown me many things about my own life and about what I need to change. I realized that I often tried not to show my weaknesses to the people I serve. I thought that in order for them to feel safe, there needed to be someone beside them who was always strong, stable, and dependable. But now I am beginning to understand that this is not entirely the right way to see it. Sometimes, by trying to always be strong, I did not allow myself to be honest and authentic. I am still learning, but I am already seeing that true strength in a leader does not mean the absence of weakness. It also means honesty, humility, and being willing to recognize that we, too, need God and other people.”



*Mariia, serves children from de-occupied territories, widows of fallen soldiers, and young people in **Ukraine** alongside her church.*

“One of the most important things I have learned so far is that transformation begins with me. I came wanting to learn how to transform my community, but ALICT has been challenging me to first examine myself, my character, my motives, my leadership, how I communicate, how I listen and how I respond to people. I am realizing that I cannot simply want to change my community; I have to allow God to continually change me so that I can become the kind of leader who serves others well. It has also made me more aware of the responsibility that comes with influence.

When young people come to me with their stories, I don't want to only have good intentions. I want to have the wisdom, skills, networks and resources to respond appropriately and help connect them to the right support. So one of my biggest hopes coming out of ALICT is that God will use what I am learning here to make me a better servant and a more effective agent of transformation back home.”



*Melonnie, a gospel artist, serves and mentors young people in **Antigua and Jamaica** through music and youth ministry.*

“Being [at ALICT] for the past month the thing that stood out for me is servant leadership. I'm at a place of acknowledging that the least is the greatest. To just serve others is the best place to be. God has been working on my heart, working on my perspective, working on my past experiences, challenging how I did leadership before.”



*Emelda, serves in the civil society space within communities in conflict regions of **Cameroon**, empowering them to drive transformation by transforming individuals from the inside out.*

“[So far ALICT] has changed me a lot in different aspects, but one of the main things I realized is that it shaped the way I see problems and use my critical thinking to address them and think of a solution.”



*Georges, serves in the youth ministry in his church in **Lebanon**.*

MEET THE 2026 ALICT CLASS - ONLINE EVENT

ITL GLOBAL
engagements

ONLINE

We are excited to invite you to our first ITL Global Engagements online event on 6 September 2026.

[Register Now](#)

As ALICT alumni, you know the journey ALICT 2026 participants are on and we would love to invite you to meet them, hear some of their stories, learn why they joined ALICT, and pray with them.

JOIN AS A CHORT: ALICT Alumni are welcome to join individually, however this is a great opportunity to come together as a cohort and support this year's class together. We'll place cohorts together in Zoom groups with two ALICT participants, giving you an opportunity to pray for them and continue supporting them throughout the programme. ***If you would like to join as a cohort, please send an email to abigail@itl.org.za so we can coordinate your breakout room.***

Learn more: itl.org.za/meet-the-2026-cohort/

Support ALICT Participants

[Donate Stuff](#)

\$ [Donate Money](#)

Save the Date

ITL ALICT Closing Ceremony
22 October 2026, at 18h30

WESTERN CAPE, VENUE TBC



Save the Date

3 December 2026

ALICT Alumni Global Connect

ITL IMPACT

A glimpse into how ALICT Leaders are Transforming Communities Across the Globe



UGANDA

“Train up a child in the way he should go...” Proverbs 22:6

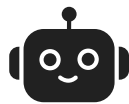


An ALICT leader in Uganda, together with a church in Katalamwa and two volunteers from Hungary, has launched a digital skills and robotics initiative for local children. This particular leader also serves in discipleship, evangelism and many other community transformation projects.

Every Saturday, children aged 9–14 learn basic computer skills and robotics. For many of them, it is their first time using a computer.



The ongoing project also equips local teachers with the skills to continue the programme after the volunteers return to Hungary. The goal is long-term sustainability, with local leaders empowered to run the initiative and serve children in their community. Through digital skills and robotics, vulnerable children are gaining confidence, practical tools to support their education and new hope for the future. Technology can become a bridge—helping children catch up at school, adapt to new learning environments and discover new opportunities.



Watch the short video combining robotics with song and everyday items!



UKRAINE

An ALICT alumna in Ukraine is serving communities affected by the ongoing war, providing psychological and emotional support to people who have been displaced from their homes and are rebuilding their lives in unfamiliar cities.

Across Ukraine, many families continue to face loss, separation, uncertainty and the long-term effects of trauma. Internally displaced people often arrive in new communities carrying grief, anxiety and chronic stress, while elderly people can be particularly vulnerable to isolation and hopelessness. As she explains, **“Daily survival often leaves little emotional strength for healing.”**

Working as a psychologist, she supports displaced people through trauma stabilisation, grief support, burnout prevention, emotional support groups and trauma-healing programmes. Her work also extends beyond formal support spaces into shelters and temporary living centres across Dnipro and the surrounding region, helping people access care where they are.

Importantly, the work is about more than responding to individual trauma. By creating spaces where people can feel accepted, connected and supported, the initiative helps displaced families begin forming new relationships and finding a sense of belonging within their communities. Participants are equipped with practical tools to manage stress, while opportunities to discuss faith and hope provide an additional source of encouragement.





LIBERIA

Benedict, an ALICT leader from Liberia, equips public-sector leaders to manage reforms that bring real and lasting change to the country.

His work helps government reforms move beyond good ideas and plans towards genuine adoption, sustainable change, and measurable benefits for the people they are intended to serve. "To me, transformation happens when change is experienced by people, not just documented in reports," said Benedict. "God has given me the opportunity to serve my nation by helping leaders navigate change with wisdom, build trust, and strengthen institutions that exist to serve citizens," he said. Benedict supports projects and reforms that are struggling to gain traction. He equips leaders to build ownership, improve communication, manage resistance, and remain focused on the benefits that inspired the reform in the first place.

"ALICT most helped me understand the mind of God for transformation across the various sectors. It reminded me that transformation is not limited to one sphere of life. God cares about families, government, education, business, the church, and every place where people live and work. When leaders align with His heart, they become instruments of change that bring hope and lasting impact," he said.

"It is always rewarding to see people begin to embrace change, confidence restored, and initiatives that once seemed stalled begin to deliver meaningful results," he reflects. "As Christians, we know that lasting transformation begins with transformed hearts. When leaders reflect the character of Christ through integrity, humility, and servant leadership, they create environments where lasting change becomes possible."

The world needs authentic and inspired leadership. Leaders like Benedict are helping to make this a reality by recognising the needs of their communities and nations, and addressing them by equipping and empowering others.

Sustainable impact is realised through Christian leaders who serve with integrity, wisdom, and a commitment to lifting others up.



UGANDA 2

An ALICT leader from the Class of 2014 is helping transform the lives of young people and families in rural South Western Uganda as the founder and Executive Director of Life Schools Uganda.

Serving around 1,200 underprivileged learners across a kindergarten, primary school and secondary school in Ntungamo District, Life Schools supports children from parentless, single-parent and economically disadvantaged homes. In a country with a very young population and high levels of youth unemployment, the organisation seeks to provide more than academic education by intentionally developing character, practical skills and pathways toward sustainable livelihoods.

Students and community members are being equipped through conservation farming, tailoring, metal fabrication, baking, hair and beauty training, as well as access to chickens and quality seeds for household farming. The organisation has also established a formal microloan project, enabling families to pool resources, access affordable loans and invest in farming and small businesses.

Life Schools has partnered with a Christian organisation experienced in conservation farming, to train staff who can then pass that knowledge on to learners, parents and local farming groups. By combining education, practical skills, access to finance and partnerships that build local capacity, Life Schools is helping the wider community develop the tools and resources to create lasting change for themselves.





SRI LANKA

An ALICT leader from Sri Lanka has started a Christian podcast with a group of friends passionate about serving God and sharing the hope of the Gospel. It is for those who might feel like "exiles" in the world: those trying to navigate the noise of today's world while still holding on to a different set of values than what it offers.

The podcast gives him the opportunity to share relatable and insightful lessons with a broad audience, encouraging others to live authentic Christian lives.



LIBERIA 2

An ALICT leader from Liberia recently facilitated a Trauma Relief Training in Monrovia, bringing together nearly 30 participants to focus on healing, resilience, and emotional well-being.

This training forms part of a broader initiative that has already reached more than 500 people across Liberia. More than 25 Trauma Relief Facilitators have been trained and equipped to carry this work into their own communities across the country. In a nation where many communities continue to carry the effects of conflict, loss, and crisis, trauma healing plays an important role in helping individuals and communities move forward.

At the heart of this work is a simple but powerful conviction: healing is possible, resilience can be built, and healthy people help build a peaceful nation.

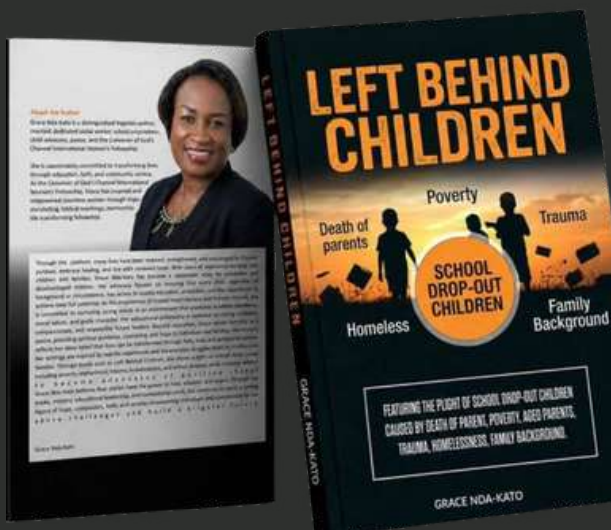


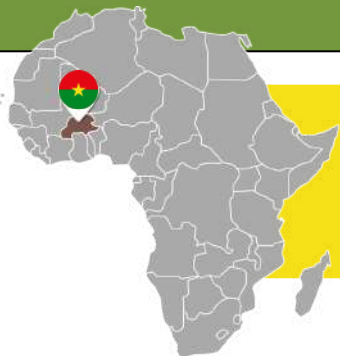
ALUMNI PUBLICATION

Grace, ALICT Class of 2018, is the founder of a registered NGO in Nigeria working to support vulnerable children and young people.

Through the foundation's Back to School Rescue Project, Grace is helping reintegrate children who have dropped out of school because of poverty and financial hardship. The programme also equips young people with practical skills such as bead making, bread making, hairdressing and life skills, giving them both purpose and opportunities to build greater independence.

Alongside this direct work in her community, Grace has also published Left Behind Children, an advocacy-focused book that raises awareness of the many challenges facing children affected by poverty, neglect, trauma, displacement and limited access to education. Through both the foundation and her writing, Grace is not only responding to the needs of vulnerable youth herself, but also helping educate and empower others to recognise these challenges and become part of the solution.





BURKINA FASO

Burkina Faso continues to face significant challenges, with insecurity affecting millions through displacement, food insecurity, and limited access to education and healthcare. Yet amid these realities, local leaders remain committed to seeing their communities transformed.

Furthermore, over the past three years, the government has made efforts to regain territories, resettle displaced populations, and invest strategically in agriculture and infrastructure.



POPULATION
24.6 Million



ALICT LEADERS
6 Leaders



LOCATION
West Africa



OFFICIAL LANGUAGE
French



MEDIAN AGE:
Just under 18 years



CAPITAL CITY
Ouagadougou

Nathanael, a 2014 ALICT alumnus serving in Bobo-Dioulasso, leads a discipleship movement for children, young people, and women. Every Saturday, around 300 children receive mentoring, Bible teaching, life-skills development, vocational support, and guidance from trusted father figures. Mothers also participate in discipleship groups and receive practical, income-generating training to help support their families.

Jean Baptiste, another ALICT alumnus, is addressing challenges such as weak discipleship, leadership conflict, false teaching, and the need for stronger biblical foundations. As a Regional Children's Ministry Director, he works alongside 2,000 children's ministers who collectively serve 24,960 children. He has also written resources for teachers and ministry leaders and facilitates cross-denominational training that promotes unity within the Church.

[Read the full article](#)

SUSTAINABLE TRANSFORMATION BEGINS LOCALLY

Burkina Faso faces real challenges, but local leaders like Nathanael (ALICT 2014) and Jean-Baptiste (ALICT 2025) are bringing hope through discipleship and investment in the next generation.



ALICT leaders are supporting women through discipleship and practical support



Local leaders know what their communities need, that is why ITL ALICT focusses on training and supporting sustainable change makers.

ALICT has empowered **six leaders** from Burkina Faso, who are serving their communities and working together to bring hope and transformation to their country.

alict

THE AFRICAN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FOR
COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

ITL FAMILY

THE ALICT COMMUNITY COMING TOGETHER

Interdependence is one of our values at ITL-ALICT. It reminds us of the importance of leaning on one another, staying accountable as Christian leaders, asking for help, and being vulnerable within our community.

The ALICT community creates a meaningful opportunity to put this value into practice and to witness the fruit of a global christian community in action. As alumni come together across countries, cohorts, and contexts, we are reminded that leadership is not meant to be walked alone, but strengthened through shared faith, support, and collaboration.

Share photos of you connecting with ALICT alumni
online or in person, with abigail@itl.org.za



Zimbabwe & Costa Rica [2009]



Spain & Timor [2018]



Zimbabwe [2024] &
Burkina Faso [2014]



Djibouti [2025], Botswana [2018], Namibia [2008]



Liberia & Cabo Verde [2022]

JOIN US IN SUPPORTING AND EMPOWERING EMERGING LEADERS

We believe that transformation is not a journey walked alone, it takes a community of committed individuals, partners, and friends and family, like you. There are many ways you can continue to stand with and support ITL-ALICT and your fellow Alumni.



Volunteer your God given skills: Whether you have professional skills, leadership experience, or simply a heart to serve, use your unique gifts to walk alongside ITL and your fellow alumni in practical, meaningful ways. Please reach out should you feel led to serve in this capacity: volunteer@itl.org.za



Pray with us: Prayer remains one of the most powerful ways you can support. We invite you to stand with us in prayer for ALICT alumni, their communities, and the ongoing mission of ITL-ALICT. Please share any words of encouragement via hello@itl.org.za.



Support specific ALICT alumni crowdfunding projects: Through the ITL GetFund platform, you can directly support alumni-led community transformation projects. Visit <https://itlgetfund.com/> to see current campaigns.



Partner with an ALICT alumnus: If a particular story or leader stood out to you and you'd like to support them specifically - whether through financial giving, prayer, mentorship, or volunteering - please feel free to reach out to johan@itl.org.za. We would be glad to connect you.



Alumni Champion Program: We're looking for 40 ALICT Alumni to give or raise \$25/month to help future leaders attend the next ALICT program.

Action Plan: [Click here](#)

We are incredibly grateful for your support, encouragement, and prayers. Thank you for your continued commitment to transforming communities and walking in your calling in humility and enthusiasm. We're incredibly excited to see how God will continue to use this ever-growing family to transform lives and communities around the world.

"so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."
Romans 12:5 NIV

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