

**SOUTH CAROLINA PILGRIMAGE TO AFRICA UNIVERSITY
LED BY BISHOP L. JONATHAN HOLSTON & MRS. FELECIA HOLSTON
JANUARY 29 – February 11, 2020**

(Zimbabwe: Harare, Mutare, Victoria Falls | South Africa: Soweto/Johannesburg)



As a justice and evangelism ministry of The United Methodist Church, Africa University’s mission is to equip leaders whose contributions enable communities to experience peace, stability, sustainable livelihoods, food security and abundant health. Africa University (AU) is a ministry born of the radical generosity and faithfulness of United Methodists. Affectionately known as *“the school of dreams in the valley of hope,”* [Africa University](#) has been described as the most exciting ministry of The United Methodist Church in this century.

Through their service and witness, the students, faculty, staff and graduates of Africa University hope to connect people to the life-giving/life-changing power of a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. AU alumni serve as seminary/university presidents, faculty, and administrators of the growing number of United Methodist higher education institutions in Africa. They are entrusted with the implementation and oversight of important UM-related initiatives and are in key cabinet-level roles in Episcopal offices across the continent. Africa University alumni are sought after, and their impact is being felt in government, business, and civil society in Africa and beyond.

This 12-day pilgrimage, which begins in Zimbabwe and ends in South Africa, will immerse you in a cornerstone United Methodist ministry in southern Africa. You'll fly from the USA via Johannesburg, South Africa to Harare, Zimbabwe. Then, journey by road from Harare to the Eastern Highlands of Zimbabwe to visit Africa University's main campus, interact with the students, faculty, administrators and local church leaders, and learn more about the vitality and hopefulness of the African continent.



Together with the AU campus community, you will celebrate African culture, connection, worship, and the evolving story and impact of Africa University.

Following the Africa University campus visit, you will travel to the Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe) National Park to enjoy breath-taking sights and unparalleled game viewing in the Zambezi River valley. The borders of three countries—Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambia—intersect near Victoria Falls. You'll venture across to border into Botswana for a

day of game viewing in the Chobe National Park. From Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe), you will fly to Johannesburg, South Africa. During your two-day stay in Johannesburg, you'll explore the turbulent history of Africa's "rainbow nation" at the Apartheid Museum; visit the Southwest Township, otherwise known as Soweto—a community that features prominently in the struggle against Apartheid; and walk along Vilikazi Street, once home to two Nobel Peace Prize winners!

Your detailed itinerary follows. If you have additional questions about the trip, contact: Andra Stevens, Africa University Development Office, telephone: 615-340-7438; or email: astevens@gbhem.org.

You can also visit www.support-africauniversity.org and www.africau.edu for more information about Africa University.

AFRICA UNIVERSITY

14-day Itinerary | USA Gateway Airport: Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International

January 29, 2020 (Wednesday): Leave Columbia, SC area for travel to Harare, Zimbabwe via Atlanta, GA and Johannesburg, SA. (Next day arrival at O. R. Tambo airport, connect for flight to Harare).

January 30th (Thursday): Arrival at Harare International Airport (Zimbabwe). Late evening (9:15PM), meet & greet, transfer to Harare hotel for overnight stay at the [Legacy Monomotapa Hotel](#).

January 31st (Friday): *Transfer by road from Harare to Mutare:* You will be picked up at your hotel after breakfast by a driver and vehicle for transfer by road (3.5-hour trip duration) to Old Mutare, where Africa University is located. On arrival at the campus, you'll check into the Ubuntu Retreat Center and have lunch. A walking tour/orientation to the campus follows. Dinner/Overnight at Ubuntu Center.



February 1st (Saturday): *At Africa U campus/in the Mutare area:* Breakfast at the Ubuntu Center. Proceed from the campus to the Mutare city center and Sakubva township for a briefing on the area's history/development, community concerns and ministry at the local church level. Lunch and a drive up to the [Leopard Rock Golf Resort](#) / Vumba Mountain area follow. Leopard Rock—a former holiday spot for the British royal family—sits atop a mountain with stunning views into neighboring Mozambique. You will have the opportunity to purchase mementos from roadside vendors. Early evening BBQ at Leopard Rock Resort clubhouse. Overnight stay at the Ubuntu Center.



February 2nd (Sunday): *At Africa U campus/in the Mutare area:* After an early breakfast, you will head out to Sunday worship service with a local congregation in the Mutasa Nyanga or Mutare District. (Working with the District Superintendent, we will select a peri-urban or rural congregation. Opportunity to preach for the Bishop and clergy members of the delegation, if interested.) After church, enjoy a late lunch/fellowship event with local church leaders. Return to the Ubuntu Center to have dinner and

enjoy a free evening.

February 3rd (Monday): *At Africa U campus:* Spend the day interacting with students, faculty and staff. Activities may include a roundtable discussion with university leaders or sitting in on lectures in the various colleges (*The Advancement & Public Affairs Office will select and assign visitors to various lectures based on specified areas of interest*). Lunch in the university cafeteria. (*Visits with faculty members or departments can be organized for the afternoon, if desired*). A special public lecture, seminar or colloquium featuring a panel that includes persons from the SC delegation can be scheduled. (*This would allow for sharing/in-depth discussion of a topic of common interest.*)



Fellowship dinner with AU student leaders. Overnight at the Ubuntu Center.

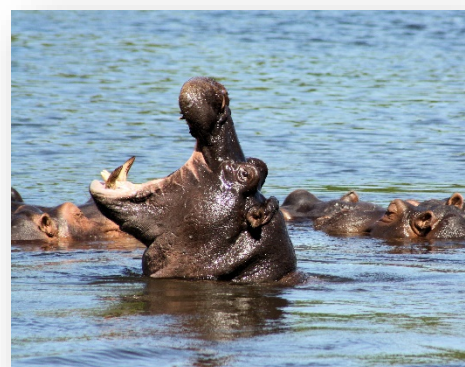
February 4th (Tuesday): *Travel by road from the Africa U campus/Mutare to Harare:* Spend the morning visiting the [Old Mutare UMC Mission](#)—a 120-year-old mission center that is home to a hospital, schools, children’s home. You will return to campus for lunch at the Ubuntu Retreat Center, then check out and depart from the campus. Travel to Harare by road (3.5 hours). On arrival in Harare, you’ll check in and have dinner. Overnight stay at the Legacy Monomotapa Hotel in Harare.

February 5th (Wednesday): *In Harare, Zimbabwe’s capital city/travel by air to Victoria Falls:* After an early breakfast at the hotel, check out and proceed to the Harare International Airport for domestic flight (FastJet Regional Airlines) to Victoria Falls (9:45am departure). On arrival at Victoria Falls International Airport (10:55am), the group will be met by Batoka Safaris staff and transferred from the airport to the hotel. After a brief period for check in and freshening up/changing into more comfy clothing, you are scheduled for a walking tour of the majestic [Victoria Falls—a UNESCO World Heritage site](#). That evening, you will enjoy a leisurely sunset/dinner cruise on the Zambezi River.



A three-night stay at the [A’Zambezi River Lodge](#) in Victoria Falls begins. Overnight at the A’Zambezi River Lodge.

February 6th (Thursday): *In Victoria Falls/Day Trip across the border into Botswana*
Venture across the border into Kasane, Botswana to the Chobe National Park for a full day safari, offering unparalleled game viewing on and along the banks of the Chobe River. Lunch at the Chobe Safari Lodge. Return to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe at 4:00pm. Dinner and overnight stay at the A’Zambezi River Lodge.



February 7th (Friday): *In Victoria Falls*

Rise before sun up and head into the [Stanley and Livingstone Game Reserve](#) for an early morning game drive, followed by a scrumptious bush breakfast cooked in the open air over wood fires. Return to the hotel for lunch and a free afternoon. That evening, enjoy dinner at the [Boma](#) restaurant, featuring exotic meats and a lively, interactive demonstration of African drumming. Overnight at the A'Zambezi River Lodge.

February 8th (Saturday): *Travel from Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe to Johannesburg, South Africa.* Following a leisurely breakfast, check out and proceed to the Victoria Falls International Airport. Check in and fly from Victoria Falls to Johannesburg, South Africa (SAA flight # 041, departing at 1:30pm). Airport meet and greet on arrival in Johannesburg by Heritage Africa, transfer to Protea Hotel – O. R. Tambo International Airport. Dinner and overnight stay at [Protea Hotel Johannesburg Airport](#)

February 9th (Sunday): *In Johannesburg*

Enjoy an early breakfast at the hotel. Leave hotel for Day Tour of Johannesburg—includes Sandton area and [Soweto: Nelson Mandela House, Tutu House,](#) and the [Apartheid Museum](#) (Full day tour), with lunch in Soweto. You will explore the turbulent history of Africa's "rainbow nation" at the Apartheid Museum. Visit the Southwest Township, otherwise known as Soweto—a community that features prominently in the struggle against Apartheid—and walk along Vilikazi Street, once home to two Nobel Peace Prize winners!



Return and drop off for second night's stay at the Protea Hotel Johannesburg Airport.

February 10th (Monday): Breakfast at hotel. Free morning or shopping excursion to the [Rosebank Arts and Crafts Market – African Market Place](#). Return to hotel for lunch, late check out, pack and prepare for departure from Johannesburg. Transfer from the hotel to the international departure terminal at O. R. Tambo. Check in and leave Johannesburg on Delta Airlines, (DL 201) departing at 7:55pm, bound for Atlanta, GA.

February 11th (Tuesday): *Arrival in Atlanta, GA with onward travel to originating/home city.*

Your flight from Johannesburg arrives in Atlanta (early morning), with onward travel to Columbia, SC or home city.

Please note the following: **The total (estimated) cost of the trip is \$4,475.00***

Trip cost includes:

- Airline tickets – transatlantic and within Africa are economy class. **Special, pre-assigned or upgraded seating will attract additional fees,** depending on airline chosen.

- 4-star accommodation venues for eleven (11) nights. Housing is booked **double occupancy**, bed and breakfast, unless uneven numbers make a single room necessary. (***N.B. Single supplement fees apply for persons who specifically request single occupancy rooms.***)
- Trip facilitator/guide traveling with the group in Zimbabwe and South Africa.
- Ground transportation in luxury air-conditioned buses.
- All the lunches and dinners that are specifically referenced in the itinerary. Meals include bottled water, juice, soft drinks and/or coffee/tea.
- Special dietary and mobility issues are addressed as appropriate.

Assumptions:

- Number of participants: 25+
- Transatlantic airline tickets will be purchased at least four months prior to departure.
- * **Single supplement for this itinerary is \$505.**

Exclusions:

- Visitor's visa/entry fees for Zimbabwe (*\$45 double entry visitor's visa required*). Paid on arrival, direct to Immigration/Customs officers on issue of entry visa.
- Personal services or items such as laundry, telephone calls, alcoholic drinks.
- Gratuities/tips for tour guides, drivers and hotel staff in Harare, Victoria Falls and Johannesburg.

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