

International Conference:  
Religious Communities and Sustainable Development.  
Points of Departure for a Post-2030 Development Agenda  
08 – 11 June 2021

Felix Bamidele Akintunde  
The Redeemed Christian Bible College, Nigeria

**Koinonia and Sustainable Development in the Redeemed Christian Church of God  
in the Era of new Normal**

The role of religious organizations for sustainable development in Nigeria cannot be over-emphasised. Development agencies over the years have been using social media such as Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and other platforms to publicize their vision, dreams, activities and spread their news, religious organizations are not left out in this development. The emergence of the era of new normal as necessitated by the effect of Covid-19 pandemic which has been threatening the peace of the entire world since late 2019, that led to the introduction of lockdown to restrict gathering of large number of people in public places like churches, mosques, markets, and to encourage people to stay at home by many nations of the world including Nigeria in order to curtail the spread of the virus has, therefore, forced the church to adopt the new method of fellowshiping (*koinonia*) against the traditional physical gathering, and spreading the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ in order to maintain the sustainability of the church and give hope and strength to the people in the time of trouble by the use of multi-media technologies such as radio, television, internet and social media platforms. The paper, therefore, investigates how the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG) employed this technological development to sustain the fellowship of the brethren and the church during the Covid-19 lockdown and after in the era of new normal, and how the church has also been able to curtail the spread of the virus among members through public campaign. The paper adopts both interview and participant observation methods to elicit information and makes useful recommendation for further development in the church.

Keywords: Redeemed Christian Church of God, Covid-19, koinonia (fellowshipping), multimedia technologies, Nigeria