About this book:

The papers in this volume narrate the histories of leading African Christians, and reflect on the meaning of writing African Christian biographies. Written to celebrate The Dictionary of African Christian Biography (www.dacb.org), this volume shows why remembering the lives of Christian leaders remains important for understanding African history, Christian identities, and African contributions to the shaping of World Christianity. The authors include some of the world’s leading scholars of African Christianity in its social, political, and theological contexts. Subjects of the papers range from an Ethiopian saint, to kings and queens, history-making Protestant pastors, and women whose hidden stories undergird their transformative leadership of family, church and society.
Contributors to and Articles in *African Christian Biography*

1. **Jonathan J. Bonk**
   - Modern African Church History and the Streetlight Effect: Biography as a Lost Key

2. **Michèle Miller Sigg**
   - Pointillist History and the Essential Role of Biography in the *Dictionary of African Christian Biography*

3. **Stan Chu Ilo**
   - Stories My Grannies Never Told Me: Memory and Orality in the Narrative of African Christian History

4. **Emmanuel A. S. Egbunu**
   - Both African and Christian: Authenticity and Identity in *African Christian Biography*

5. **Wendy Laura Belcher (translations with Michael Kleiner)**
   - The Life and Visions of Krəstos Śämra, a Fifteenth-Century Ethiopian Woman Saint

6. **John K. Thornton**
   - King Afonso I of Kongo: The Making of an African Christian King and His Kingdom

7. **Linda M. Heywood**
   - Queen Njinga and Her Faiths: Religion and Politics in Seventeenth-Century Angola

8. **Stephen Volz**
   - A Chief Who Loved God: Kgosi Sechele and the History of Christianity in Southern Africa

9. **Mark A. Noll**
   - Mizeki, Chilembwe, Harris, and the Future of African Christianity in Its Past

10. **Deborah Gaitskell**
    - Preaching as Boxing? The Sermons of Seth Mokitimi, the “Brown Bomber,” as a Biographical Resource

11. **Heather Hughes**
    - Recovering the Lives of African Women Leaders in South Africa: The Case of Nokutela Dube

12. **Barbara Mahamba**
    - “A Character Worth Writing About”: Sikhawulaphi Khumalo’s Education and Christian Experiences at Empandeni Mission, Southwestern Zimbabwe, 1900–1940s

13. **Wendy Urban-Mead**
    - “Why Can’t We Ordain Nellie?”: Leadership, Faith, and Hagiography in the Life of Nellie Maduma Mlotshwa, Zimbabwe

14. **Maureen O. Iheanacho**
    - Unknown Pioneers and Unsung Heroes: Forgotten Christian Ancestors of the Gold Coast (Ghana)

15. **Paul Glen Grant**
    - Biography as Counter-Narrative to Rupture: The Moral Problem of Intact Lives

16. **Roger S. Levine**
    - Jan Tzatzoe or Dyani Tshatshu: Personal, Political, and Historical Consequences of Naming in African History

17. **Joanne Davis**
    - Omission and Elision: Missing the Target in the Biographies of the Reverend Tiyo Soga