



# INSTITUT MEDICAL CHRETIEN DU KASAI

## Christian Medical Institute of the Kasai - Serving in Central Congo

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**A Monthly Newsletter**

**Issue No 5 - January 2011**

### Anybody can serve

Beverly Howard of Little Falls Presbyterian Church in Falling Waters, WV writes, "Our congregation saves stamps to help with expenses in the Congo."

### Anybody can serve

After Bernard Kabibu and Leon Mubikayi visited their church, Rev. Ken Campbell of St Johns Presbyterian Church used the parable of the talents and handed out \$50 bills to every attendant to church one day. He asked them go out and raise what money they could for IMCK. Two months later, the church received all the \$6,500 back and they were able to send \$14,000 to IMCK!

### Anybody can serve

August of 2010, Bill Moore of Westminster Church, Wilmington, DE traveled to IMCK. While there, he saw the need, the work being done on the IMCK hydro facility, especially a particular non-functioning water pump. He returned with a story and pictures. His church followed with a project. This month, that church sent \$2,535 to Medical Benevolence Foundation; they designated it for that water pump project at IMCK.



And Michel Beya, a 4th year lab student at IMCK is learning, striving to serve in health.

**Everybody can be great. Because anybody can serve.**

**You don't have to have a college degree to serve.**

**You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve.**

**You don't have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve.**

**You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.**

**Martin Luther King**

### IMCK Board meets In February. They also serve.

The week of February 13 - 19, IMCK board members are arriving and meeting at Tshikaji. They will address many of the urgent financial and personnel issues as well as address the future of IMCK. Review board member names on the last page of this report. Pray for them and encourage them in their service. Future newsletters will cover their agenda and decisions.

### Looking for someone to volunteer for six months to a year at IMCK

The IMCK Board and Administration have recently announced a search for someone to serve as a volunteer for six months to a year at IMCK in public relations. In this time of global communities, the volunteer would serve as a reporter able to transmit by internet English reports about IMCK to those in the US who are maintaining e-newsletters, web sites, news reports and face book information about IMCK. More importantly, the volunteer would collaborate with IMCK staff about how to expand their public relations work in Congo and abroad. That volunteer would need some proficiency in French and in journalism. Orientation and supervision would be provided by the IMCK administration. PCUSA Central Africa Liaison, Jeff Boyd, has encouraged Congo supporters and PCUSA churches to procure the full description from him at [jcmsnboyd@gmail.com](mailto:jcmsnboyd@gmail.com) and to disseminate the information through all means possible: newsletters, church bulletins, "Minute for Missions" times in services, college job fairs...what else? To procure a copy of this job description, write any of the following:

IMCK Administrator Bernard Kabibu at [bpkabibu@yahoo.fr](mailto:bpkabibu@yahoo.fr)

board member Bill Rule at [BillnBethRule@comcast.net](mailto:BillnBethRule@comcast.net)

board member Bill Simmons at [bsimmons@mbfoundation.org](mailto:bsimmons@mbfoundation.org)

This project is not only an important business project to support IMCK, it is also an effort to link US and Congolese communities in partnerships that try to help each other in God's mission in a globalized world.

**Young Man Treated at the Hospital:**

Mpoyi Mutombo (seen below) is a 17 year old who was admitted to Good Shepherd Hospital on March 31, 2010. He was acutely ill with muscular contractions, fevers, and difficulty speaking. This originated from a wound received accidentally when he had gone out to cut down palm nuts to sell the oil from them, to gain money to eat. While up in the tree, he came upon a poisonous serpent and to escape, he fell out of the tree, breaking his leg. For lack of money, he was treated in the home with traditional remedies. He soon contracted tetanus. The hospital treated him in two ways: internal medicine treated him for tetanus and surgeons operated on the open fracture of his right leg. He benefitted immensely from the medicines, operation, and rehabilitation treatments. After 5 months in the hospital, he was released. The hospital treated him free of cost, particularly under the care of Dr John Fletcher. The debt he owed was \$437.00



**Two Nursing Leaders at Good Shepherd Hospital**

At Good Shepherd Hospital, Veronique Kabanga, seen above with two students, is Head Nurse for Pavilion C2 CAD, the male medicine and surgery section. She began work there in 1998. As a working floor nurse, she started with caring for the hospitalized patients, taking vital signs, changing the laundry, applying bandages, and giving medicines. Five years later she became a consultative nurse for OB-GYN treatment. Then she worked in Pediatric consultations. Four years later she became the nurse in charge of the pavilion where she works now. She is devoted to her work, and even when the nurses under her are absent, she covers for them. She is married and the mother of three children, and is protestant.

Kapinga Vivange, above on the left, is Head Nurse of Female Medicine and Surgery Pavilion. Right after she graduated from Nursing School in 2005, she went to work as a lead nurse at Good Shepherd Hospital. She worked a year on the male medicine and surgery pavilion before she was promoted to the Head Nurse position for Female Medicine and Surgery. She carries the great responsibility of keeping the pavilion well staffed and well run.



This note from your editor, Charlotte White. I am going to work at IMCK for the month of February to gather information for the newsletter. So no newsletter again until early March!

- Make a donation to IMCK & designate it for medicines.  
These are some medicines always in short supply at IMCK.
- Amoxycilline for infections
  - Ampicillin for infections
  - Aspirin- for pain and fever
  - Ciprofloxin - for infections
  - Erythromycin - for infections
  - IV fluids
  - Maalox - antacid/anti-gas
  - Metronidazole for infections
  - Quinin - for malaria
  - Diclofenac for pain

The financial report below covers general operations of IMCK medical services. It does not cover special projects such as the moringa tree.

**IMCK Health Operations Services for the month of December 2010:**

Number of GSH In-Patients Treated:	214*
Number of Out-patient at PAX	1,460
Number of Out-Patients @ GSH	
Opening Operations Balance	Not available
Total Receipts Collected Locally	Not available
Total Unrestricted Donations:	Not available
Total Operations Expenditures:	Not Available*
Closing Operations Balance:	Not Available
Total Debt at Month End:	\$Not Avail**
Debt Increase (+)/Decrease(-):	+\$Not Avail

\*Good Shepherd Hospital  
 \*\*The debt increases some months due to some unpaid salaries and some unpaid utilities.

The next newsletter will feature the PAX CLINIC. But a quick up date on the PAX generator for now - it has been installed and is running! It is a single piston 8KW model made by Changgong in China. The 2011 budget assumes it will use 20 liters a day for six days a week. At US\$2/liter, that should be about \$12,500 per year. The solar power panels do not provide power for big equipment at PAX but are very useful for lighting, especially at night in a city that does not provide electricity 24/7. Thanks for this help from many!



On left, Nurse Bananga, Middle Lab Tech Kabila, on Right Director of Nurses Gibende Hippolithe.

**White Lab Coats & Other Things for IMCK:** These three IMCK staff demonstrate needed lab coats, which are difficult to procure and expensive in Congo. Please consider sending these in various sizes. Purchase new ones or recycle older ones in good condition. IMCK is about three months behind in staff pay. Besides late pay, morale can flag with the many shortages at the hospital. This could be one way for IMCK to say thank you to the staff! Try to send some in the next month to the Medical Benevolence Foundation address below. Someone going soon can take a suitcase full of them! But add a little money for the luggage cost! In the March or April Newsletter, we will provide a full feature on how we can move FORWARD with sending a shipping container to Congo for IMCK. St John Pres. of Camus, WA already has two pallets of lab equipment ready to ship. Who else has needed materials sent or ready to send? More info on all that to come!

### **Board Member Biographical Sketch**

Rev. Dr. Adolphe Komuesa, a new Board member, is the President and Legal Representative of the Mennonite Community in Congo. Rev. Komuesa was born in Tshingila village, in the Tshikapa area. He attended primary and secondary schools at Nyanga Mennonite mission station. He is an alumnus of the Protestant University of Congo in Kinshasa (UPC) where he got his MA (1983) and PhD (2002) in theology. He married to Jeanne Sowela, who passed away in 2008. Dr Komuesa & Jeanne had 7 children. He was a minister in Nyanga parish 1980-1981 and worked as the chief of the church district 1991-1999. He became president and legal representative of the church in 2004. He is a professor at the Christian University of Kinshasa, and visiting professor at Tshikapa Teaching Training College. In 2006, he became a provincial deputy, a political position. Rev. Dr. Komuesa is known for the fact that he never tolerate lies.

### **Board Members of IMCK**

Rev. Dr. Mulumba Musumbu Mukundi- Chairman & CPC Representative  
 Rev. Kabasele Bantubiabo - Mennonite Representative  
 Mr. Jeff Boyd - PCUSA Representative  
 Dr. John Fletcher - CPC Representative  
 Rev. Birakara Ilowa - Mennonite Representative  
 Rev. Mboyamba Kabala - CPC Representative  
 Mr. Tshishimbi Kasonga - Mennonite Representative  
 Rev Dr Adolphe Komuesa - Mennonite Representative  
 Dr. Gaspard Mahuma - Mennonite Representative  
 Rev. Tshidinda Mamba - CPC Representative  
 Dr. Blaise Ndandu Mayimona - IMCK Representative  
 Mr. Bill Rule IV - PCUSA Representative  
 Mr. Bill Simmons - PCUSA Representative  
 Dr. Larry Sthreshley - PCUSA Representative  
 Mr. Ntumba Tshitenge - IMCK Representative

**IMCK Administration:** [imckbusiness@yahoo.fr](mailto:imckbusiness@yahoo.fr)

Administrator - Mr. Bernard Kabibu Bimvulu  
 Hospital Director - Dr. Blaise Ndandu  
 Legal Representative - Mr. Ntumba Tshitenge

IMCK is a Christian primary health care facility and medical education center. Its services are centered at the Good Shepherd Hospital, a 142 bed facility and at PAX, with 20 beds. General medicine, surgery, ophthalmology, pediatrics, obstetrics, dental services, radiology and lab services are provided. This faith based organization has been in operation for over 50 years.

### **How to make a donation to IMCK**

To give through Presbyterian Church, USA (PCUSA), make checks out to Presbyterian Church USA and send to PCUSA, Individual Remittance Processing, PO Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. Write "ECO#320202 - IMCK" in the memo line. Or go to <http://gamc.pcusa.org/donate/E320202/> to give on line.

To give through the Medical Benevolence Foundation, a validated mission support group of the PCUSA, make checks to Medical Benevolence Foundation and send to 3100 S. Gessner, Suite 210, Houston, TX 77063. Write IMCK, Congo on the memo line. Or go to <http://www.mbfoundation.org/index.php> to give on line.

To give directly to IMCK, make checks to IMCK. Send to Wachovia Bank ([www.wachovia.com](http://www.wachovia.com)): Account number: 20000008628398; Account Owner: Institut Medical Chretien du Kasai; c/o Worldwide Ministries Div- Zaire. Then please send an email concurrently to IMCK management (above address) informing them of the amount and designation, so they can manage it appropriately.

### **Newsletter Matters**

Contributors this month: Gibende Hippolithe, Bernard Kabibu, Bill Rule, and Charlotte Rule White. To add or remove a name from the mailing list, write to Charlotte Rule White at [docwhite@hargray.com](mailto:docwhite@hargray.com). Charlotte welcomes your suggestions or contributions to this newsletter.