



# INSTITUT MEDICAL CHRETIEN DU KASAI

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

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**A Monthly Newsletter (Usually!)**

**Issue No 21 - October 2012**

**It's a new academic year, and the IMCK campus is filled with students and instructors!** ITM, the four year high school program for nursing and lab tech has students enrolled. ISTM, the college level program for nursing and health administration has students enrolled. Fifteen medical students (called stagiaires) from medical schools are rotating all year in departments of IMCK at the Good Shepherd Hospital and the busy PAX Clinic. With the arrival in August of Dr. Banza Kalenga, Director of IMCK Education and Coordinator of Residency Program, five medical residents are in the IMCK program. Supporting Dr. Kalenga in this large medical program and providing extended service to the region are ten more staff physicians. So this newsletter takes a closer look at the sixteen doctors and fifteen medical students at IMCK, who provide major service to an area with over a million people.

### **IMCK PHYSICIANS & MEDICAL STUDENTS:**

Eleven physicians serve on the IMCK medical staff, providing medical service, teaching and leadership over a large complex: the Good Shepherd Hospital at Tshikaji, the PAX Clinic in the city of Kananga, and public health service in the region. Salaries of ten of the staff are paid by IMCK. The salary of Dr. Fletcher is paid by Presbyterian Church USA and Medical Benevolence Foundation. The eleven doctors are as follows in alphabetical order: Dr. Djongesongo Gambia (Generalist), Dr. John Fletcher (Surgeon), Dr. Kabasele Kabata (Dentist), Dr. Banza Kalenga (Family Medicine), Dr. Kapembu Kande (Ophthalmologist), Dr. Mvita Kande (Generalist), Dr. Makolo Kazadi (Generalist), Dr. Ntumba Lumbamba (Generalist), Dr. Moulage Mukundi (Generalist), Dr. Mulla Ntumba (Generalist), Dr. Mukundi Tshitadi (Generalist). Their pictures will be presented in the next newsletter.

IMCK staff physicians see patients in the following clinics at PAX in Kananga: Ob/GYN, Diabetes, Internal Medicine, AIDS, Pediatrics, Ophthalmology, Surgery, and Dental. At PAX, there is a 24 hr ER, surgery is performed, babies are delivered, and this "clinic" has twenty beds for admissions. At Tshikaji, where the Good Shepherd is located, patients are admitted to the hospital for obstetrics, medical service and surgery. The Good Shepherd Hospital also has a wing for seeing outpatients and for conducting a 24 hour emergency room.

Five other doctors work at IMCK in the residency program. They receive an IMCK scholarship and a monthly stipend of \$75. Their names are: Dr. Ilunga Kebab Barth, Dr. Mimbie Mbongn-Osia Marlene, Dr. Basilica Mutu Mireille, Dr. Ingole Bottle Papy, and Dr. Bope Minga Jean Pierre. See their photo below.

But that is not all! This year, fifteen medical students are living at Tshikaji and rotating through the different IMCK medical services. Fourteen of these students are from Notre Dame University, the Catholic University in Kananga. The fifteenth student is from Kinshasa University. (Cont'd Page 2; Medical Students)



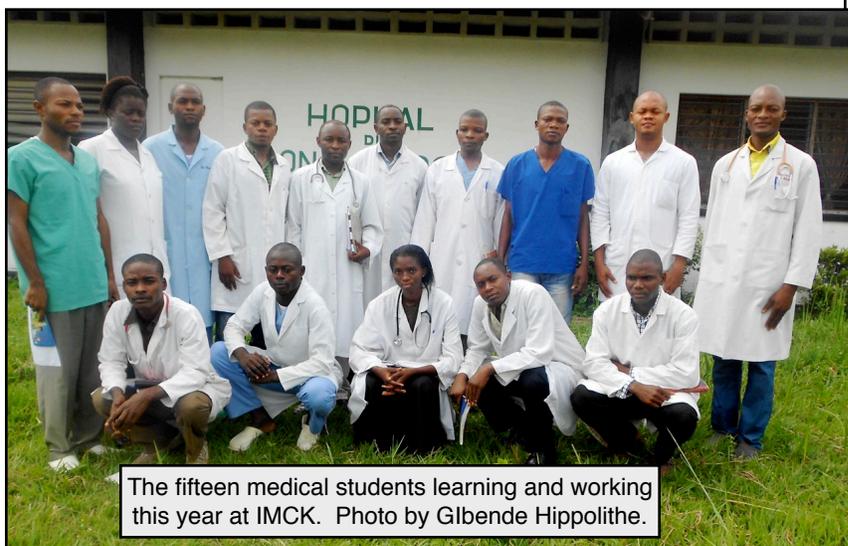
The five physician residents with the Director of their Residency Program, Dr. Banza Kalenga. Photo by Gibende Hippolithe

**PAX CLINIC TO BE RENOVATED:** There is hope for the renovation of PAX, the clinic in Kananga. The IMCK Board, in their November 2011 meeting, agreed that PAX represents a unique opportunity to deliver on the mission of IMCK. Its location in a large population center allows easy access. But, its structure and deteriorating condition makes the delivery of services difficult. Preliminary plans call for the renovation to occur in four phases. Phase 1 would renovate the laboratory space, making it more efficient and patient-friendly. Phase 2 would move the dental clinic to a new and updated space. Phase 3 would develop a separate and expanded Women's Center, with rooms for labor and delivery. Phase 4 would look at the remaining facility and the best uses for that space.

Architectural plans and projected costs for the first 3 phases are being developed. Funding options are being evaluated. If you want more information about this project or if your church wishes to partner in the project, contact Elizabeth Little at Myers Park Presbyterian Church: [elittle@myersparkpres.org](mailto:elittle@myersparkpres.org). Submitted by Jo Stewart, MPPC

**Continued - Medical Students:** These stagiaires or students, while given a place to live by IMCK, have no scholarships, no monthly stipend, no meal program. Below is a picture of these students. Their names are as follows: Nkongolo Kapepula Abel, Kambala Cask Sylvain, Balanganayi Ntumba David, Munyemba Beya Sylvain, Muutombo Lota Mireille, Dutch Kalala Rosette, Kuamba Miaka Eugene, Kasonga Bafuanansha Leon, Bende Bende Benjamin, Mufti Mufti Freddy, Malu wa Malu Christian, Kalala Bululu Bernard, Tshibangu Kabamba Patrick, Minga Minga Minga, Matungulu Kalama Barth.

These sixteen physicians and fifteen medical students strive to make the Kasai a healthier place to live, providing skilled and compassionate care. IMCK is vital in providing not only the medical service, but also in coordinating a premier training site for the future physicians of the Kasai. Submitted by Bernard Kabibu & Charlotte White.



The fifteen medical students learning and working this year at IMCK. Photo by Glibende Hippolithe.

**Marcia Murray going to teach at IMCK!** Marcia Murray, who grew up in Congo & worked there in past years in education as a missionary, has offered her volunteer services to teach at IMCK! She recently interviewed with Dr. Mulumba Mukundi, Secretary General of Congo Presbyterian Church (CPC), offering her services. He asked for her to come at the invitation of CPC. She departs to the DRC in late November with visitors to IMCK from Myers Park Presbyterian Church. Arrangements are being made for Marcia to live at Tshikaji and teach math in one of the many programs there. She will perhaps also teach English. I asked Marcia what made her volunteer to teach in Congo. She wrote a thoughtful response, saying she loves Congo, speaks French and Tshiluba, has taught there in French, and wanted to keep working after retirement. She writes, "I really feel God has been leading me this whole time." Going to Congo, she says, is like going "home" & she feels God led her to her "first choice" for something meaningful to do now. Submitted by C White.



**Travel to Congo; are you interested?** Charlotte White is leading a two week trip to Congo, departing about Jan 30 and returning around Feb 14. The focus of this trip is to gain more information for groups in America to partner with IMCK or to support some of the major projects of IMCK. Needed are any of the following:

- Dentist or dental hygienist to assess IMCK dental service for needs and ways to strengthen their program.
- Ophthalmologist or optometrist to assess the ophthalmology service for needs and ways to strengthen their program. Optician also welcome.
- Health administration person to consult on the clinics, computer system or supply system.
- Representative of a church or program that is interested in partnering with IMCK on some projects.
- Person with skills in public relations/marketing to consult with staff or give presentations.
- Person with skills to work with computers and to create some follow-up visually compelling stories of IMCK.
- Person ready to commit to some follow up work in writing or telling the story of IMCK.

This trip will cost about \$3,500. The international ticket must be purchased by mid December. If you want to learn more about this trip, write to Charlotte - [CRuleWhite@gmail.com](mailto:CRuleWhite@gmail.com). Participate in a remarkable program for remarkable people! Submitted by C White

**MATTRESS NEWS:** Charles Johnson continues collection of money for mattresses for the hospital beds at IMCK, PAX and other CPC hospitals. Go to this site to see that the goal of \$50,000 has almost been reached! Just \$6,000 to reach the goal! See what has been done at this site and help reach the goal: [www.crowdrise.com/mattressesforcongo](http://www.crowdrise.com/mattressesforcongo) .



IMCK Chapel started. Photo by Gibende Hippolithe.

**IMCK CHAPEL FOUNDATIONS BEING LAID!** This is the first of three stages- 1) Foundations, 2) Walls and 3) Roof. PCUSA will send IMCK money for each subsequent stage from the total funds collected to date, when photos and financial reports show completion of the previous stage. However, the total funds collected will only pay for the "shell" of the building and get it safely roofed. Finished doors and windows, exterior drainage, and interior work, such as a concrete floor, ceilings, plaster and furnishings, will require further donations. This project to build a chapel at Tshikaji started in 2007, but moved slowly during the economic downturn in the USA! It will be used for morning chapel for students, patients and staff. The local church, Ecumenical Parish of Tshikaji, will conduct services here and the community looks forward to its many ways to worship, sing, gather, comfort and celebrate in faith. Submitted by Bill Rule



**Friends of IMCK:** The money raised in the first 16 months of Friends of IMCK now stands at \$99,575.57. To learn more about this project, go to <http://www.imck.org/>. More info next month.

The IMCK website is a great resource. Go to [www.imck.org](http://www.imck.org) or type it into your browser. Write [FriendsofIMCK@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsofIMCK@gmail.com), if you want to advise or help us with this newsletter or any other projects in partnership with IMCK service.

Keep up with USA/Congo Partnerships & News: [www.imck.org](http://www.imck.org) & <http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/global/democratic-republic-congo/> & [www.mbfoundation.org](http://www.mbfoundation.org) & <http://www.congopartners.org/> and [www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/) (search IMCK Congo) and <http://congohelpinghands.org/> & <http://www.row.org/congo-kasai-2009-update/>. IMCK, PCUSA and MBF sites have lots of information about Congo and IMCK. Learn about the Congo Mission Network meeting, the next groups going to Congo, Helping Hands work, ROW work. To join Congo Connections, write Annette [anwash@centurylink.net](mailto:anwash@centurylink.net). Go to <http://www.enoughproject.org/> to learn about conflict minerals in Congo and the need for certification. Learn about Congo at [www.wikipedia.org/](http://www.wikipedia.org/). Read, learn, get involved.

**Board Members of IMCK at the May 2012 meeting:**

- Dr. Larry Sthresley - PCUSA Rep; Chairman of Board
- Rev. Barker Ilowa - CMCO Representative (Mennonite)
- Rev. Mboyamba Kabala - CPC Representative
- Mr. Tshishimbi Kasonga -CMCO Representative
- Mr. Laurent Camisole Kwanzaa - CMCO Representative
- Dr. Gaspard Mahuma - CMCO Representative
- Rev. Tshidinda Mamba - CPC Representative
- Rev. Dr. Mulumba Musumbu Mukundi- CPC Rep.
- Mr. Mike Clement - PCUSA Representative
- Dr. Patrick Kebab Tshibemba - CPC Representative
- Dr Blaise Ndandu - IMCK Representative

**Current IMCK Administration:** [imckbusiness54@yahoo.fr](mailto:imckbusiness54@yahoo.fr)  
 IMCK Director - Mr. Alexis Mayambi Zambia  
 Administrator - Mr. Bernard Kabibu Bimvulu  
 Rev. Mboyamba Kabala- Legal Representative

IMCK is a Christian primary health care facility and medical education center. Its services are centered at the Good Shepherd Hospital, a 140 bed facility, and at PAX, with 20 beds. General medicine, surgery, ophthalmology, pediatrics, gyn/obstetrics, dental services, radiology and lab services are provided. This faith based organization has been in operation for almost 60 years.

**How to make a donation to IMCK:**

To give to **IMCK endowment**, go to <https://mbfoundation.secure-donor.com/fimck?> & follow the directions. Or write a check to Friends of IMCK & write For Endowment. Send to Medical Benevolence Foundation, PO Box 96877, Washington, DC 20090. (Friends of IMCK is part of MBF.)

To give through the **Medical Benevolence Foundation**, a validated mission support group of PCUSA, go to <http://www.mbfoundation.org/index.php>. Designate on line "For IMCK Congo." Or send a check to Medical Benevolence Foundation, PO Box 96877, Washington, DC 2009. Write IMCK, Congo on the memo line.

To give **directly to IMCK**, make check to IMCK. Send to Wells Fargo Bank ([www.wellsfargo.com](http://www.wellsfargo.com)): Account number: 2000008628398; Account Owner: Institut Medical Chretien du Kasai. Send an email to Bernard Kabibu at IMCK (above address) informing him of the amount and designation, so IMCK can manage it appropriately and also so they can acknowledge the gift.

To give through **Presbyterian Church, USA** (PCUSA), go to <http://gamc.pcusa.org/give/E320202/>. Or write a check to Presbyterian Church USA; send to PCUSA, Individual Remittance Processing, PO Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. Put "ECO#320202 - IMCK" on the check.

To give through **Rivers of the World-Kasai Chapter**, make checks payable to ROW & write FOR IMCK. Send to 3640 Hewatt Court, Snellville, GA 30039. Or go to [www.row.org](http://www.row.org) & donate. Follow instructions to designate the gift to Congo-Kasai / IMCK. Give in honor of someone, if desired.

**Newsletter Matters:** Contributors this month: Gibende Hippolithe, Bernard Kabibu, Bill Rule, Jo Stewart, Charlotte Rule White. To add or remove a name from the mailing list, write Charlotte White at [CRuleWhite@gmail.com](mailto:CRuleWhite@gmail.com). Charlotte welcomes your suggestions or contributions.