



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 23 - December 2012



IMCK serves Kananga in 2 places: 1) The main campus is at Tshikaji, 10 miles outside Kananga, site of the Good Shepard Hospital & the college & high school medical programs. 2) PAX Clinic is in Kananga. This is a large clinic, an ER and a OB unit with 25 beds.

Thanks to you and Happy New Year!

On behalf of the Christian Medical Institute of Kasai (IMCK) and the staff, we greet you fraternally in Jesus Christ, our liberator, and we send you our best wishes for happiness and prosperity in this Christmas and New Year season.

Good Shepherd Hospital (HBB), which is part of the IMCK, has worked in a social and economic context particularly difficult during this financial year ending 2012. Apart from the financial crisis, which unfortunately continues to shake the IMCK, we experienced disruptions in the functioning of IMCK because of resignations of leaders, namely Dr. Denis Pirlot Corbion in February, who was newly appointed Director of IMCK and Dr. Blaise Ndandu Mayimona, who then served as Director for three months. Dr. Blaise had been serving IMCK as Director of Tshikaji Public Health, Program Coordinator of Physician Residents and Head of Surgery.

These departures were a hard blow on the functioning of the institute, which apparently was on a slippery slope. Like when Moses was no longer the leader and the Lord called Joshua to lead the children of Israel, the IMCK Board of Directors appointed the Pharmacist Alexis Mayambi Nzamba to take the leadership of IMCK in May. Like the wisdom and knowledge God gave his servant Solomon, we pray He gives wisdom to Director Nzamba to continue the work here, which is the subject of our pride in this part of the world.(Cont'd Page 2 - See Thanks)

Mattress Delivery News: Dec. 17

Friends, I am writing this a few days before Christmas. The Mattresses for Congo fundraiser to purchase and deliver 375 new mattresses to the historic mission hospitals in Congo has been very successful, both from a fundraising standpoint and from a logistical standpoint. New mattresses have already been delivered to IMCK/Good Shepherd Hospital (100), PAX Hospital (25), and the clinic at the Butoke Orphanage (10).

I received an email earlier today, regarding the delivery of 100 mattresses to the hospital in Luebo. Luebo was the epicenter of an Ebola outbreak in 2007, at which time their mattresses had to be burned. Now five years later, new mattresses are on the way to Luebo, thanks to your help. In addition to mattresses on the way to Luebo, mattresses will be delivered soon (Pg 2 Cont'd)



Bernard Kabibu, Ntumba Tshitenge & IMCK employee with mattresses that have arrived in

Con't Thanks: May the child whose birth we celebrate give you peace, and may you move from success to success in all you undertake. Be reassured that it is thanks to your support in all its forms that IMCK survives and will continue to survive and serve the poor in this part of the world.

We want to seize this opportunity at the end of 2012 to deeply thank all those, near and far, who supported the health ministry of IMCK during this past year. We particularly thank those listed below. Joyous Christmas and Happy New Year to all, Bernard Kabibu Bimvulu, IMCK Administrator

Thanks to you!

Organizations:

Christoffel Blind Mission
Friends of IMCK
Medical Benevolence Foundation
Presbyterian Church USA
Rivers of the World

Churches:

Bethel Presby. Church, Columbus
Broad St. Presby. Church, Columbus
Catonsville Presbyterian Church, MD
Davidson College Presby. Church, NC
Eastminster Presbyterian Church, IN
Eastminster Presby. Church, Columbia
First Presby. Church, Cranbury, NJ

First Presby. Church, Kannapolis, NC
First Presby. Church, Knoxville, TN
First Presby. Church, McMinnville, OR
First Presby. Church, Moorestown, NJ
First Presbyterian Church, Newberg
First Presby. Church, Sheridan
First Scots Presbyterian Church, SC
John Knox Presbyterian Church
Knox Presby. Church, St Paul, MN
Lewes Presbyterian Church, DL
Myers Park Presbyterian Church, NC
Okemos Presby. Church, Okemos, MI
Presbyterian Church of Dover, DL
Scarborough Presbyterian Church, NY
Second Presby. Church, Indianapolis
Sinking Valley Presby. Church, PA

St Johns Presby. Church, Camas, WA
St Philip Church, Houston, TX
Trinity Presby. Church, Modesto, CA
United Presby. Church, Canistota, SD
Westminster Presby. Church, Medford
Wytheville Presbyterian Church, VA

Individuals too numerous to list, but here are some particularly:

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Gardner
Ms. Regina H. Gersch
Mr. & Mrs. R. Larimer
Mr. James W Lee
Rev. & Mrs. William Metzler
Ms. Martelle O. Scott
Rev. & Mrs. William Washburn
Mr. & Mrs. Grier White

MATTRESS NEWS: to Bulape (100), Moma (20) and Mboi (20). None of this would have ever been possible without your support! Thanks so much for your prayers and support with regard to this endeavor. Blessings to you and yours this Christmas season. In His service, Charles Johnson (Charles is a Northwood Presby Church member, who traveled to Congo in May with Jimmy Shafe & the program, Rivers of The World.) [Check out (www.crowdrise.com/mattressesforcongo) to note the sum collected for this delivery, as well as extended efforts now for sheets and nets for beds!]

Here is an email from Ruthie Schaad (daughter of Don Bobb) written from Kinshasa to Jimmy Shafe & Charles on 12/17/12:

Simon called today, mainly so that Dr. Jean Luc from Luebo could talk with me. They were together organizing the transport of the 100 mattresses to Luebo. Dr. Jean Luc was overcome with joy for the mattresses. He said that he had already been happy when he heard there were 100 mattresses just about ready to go for them. But when he saw these with his own eyes, he said he was overwhelmed with gratitude and cannot thank you enough in the name of people served at Luebo Hospital. Once the mattresses are on the train he will take responsibility for them. He said they plan to take good care of them and be accountable for them. I again asked for pictures & he said they indeed have a camera & will certainly do that. Dr. Jean Luc also informed me that it is pretty certain that next year Luebo Hospital will be supported by IMA! What a wonderful and merited development! Ruthie Schaad



Ntumba Bamue at Good Shepherd Hospital

A person we served: Each month, we share with friends & supporters the situation of patients we serve. We chose to be an institution that serves the indigent, despite our financial difficulties. So we tell here about Ntumba Bamue, age 62, married to Bakajika & with six children. She came to IMCK & was diagnosed with Cancer. But because of finances & other problems, she could not have surgery for five months. Finally, Dr Jean Muendi performed her surgery. The bill, \$300, remains unpaid, since her husband is old, without work and there is no family income. We continue to provide service to the many indigent of our region and we thank you for understanding why we depend on help with indigent care. Submitted by Gibende Hippolithe



IMCK has waited over 50 years for the funds to build the IMCK Chapel! Note the beginning here of construction!

Chapel progress: The IMCK and Congo Presbyterian Church have completed the first of three stages for the building of the chapel. They have submitted the report & await from PCUSA the next amount of money, in order to proceed with the building. To contribute to the building of this chapel, send donations to PC(USA) by writing a check to PC(USA) & mark the gift for **ECO#862737/IMCK/Chapel**. Individuals mail it to PCUSA, Individual Remittance Processing, PO Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. Notify JoAnn Saunders of PC(USA) of your donation by writing her at JoAnn.Saunders@pcusa.org Or send donation to Medical Benevolence Foundation Medical Benevolence Foundation, PO Box 96877, Washington, DC 2009. Write IMCK Chapel, Congo on the memo line. Submitted by C. White

The Friends of IMCK project to raise \$500,000 for an endowment for IMCK requires phone conferences and work each month. In November, emails have been sent to presbyteries/churches interested in a fund raising project for the IMCK endowment. Some endowments for IMCK are being formed that are named after a particular person to be honored. If you wish to know more about this, go to <http://www.imck.org/>



The IMCK website is a great resource. Go to www.IMCK.org or type it into your browser. Write 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://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/global/democratic-republic-congo/> & www.mbfoundation.org & <http://www.congopartners.org/> and 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 anbwash@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/. Read, learn, get involved.

Board Members of IMCK at the May 2012 meeting:

- Dr. Larry Sthreshley - 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
 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): 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 & 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, Charles Johnson, Ruthie Schaad, Bernard Kabibu, Charlotte White. To add or remove a name from the mailing list, write Charlotte White at CRuleWhite@gmail.com. Charlotte welcomes your suggestions or contributions.