



INSTITUT MEDICAL CHRETIEN DU KASAI

Christian Medical Institute of the Kasai - Serving in Central Congo

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A Monthly or Bimonthly Newsletter

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PARTNERING! IMCK is an organization composed of the Good Shepherd Hospital; PAX Clinic; ISTM College for pediatric nursing, midwives, & health administration; ITM High School for nurses & lab techs; the Nutrition Center; & a clinical site for medical residents & last year medical students.

IMCK welcomes visitors to partner with skills such as engineering, facility repair skills, medical lecture skills, and much more. Price for a visit 10 - 14 days is about \$3,000. Priceless - the joy of sharing, praying, working together. You can't go? Then from home, help raise money for scholarships, FIMCK endowment, supplies, or help to maintain our face book or web sites! Read and learn about Congo. Pray for IMCK's work! Submitted by Charlotte White



JOEL AND KARLA CARBON TAKE SPECIAL MICROSCOPE TO IMCK:

Karla and I served at Tshikaji from 1990 to 1993. I taught there at the ITM high school, and later, following Nancy Norman, administered the ITM lab program. Later on, I took over the hospital lab and radiology departments from Frances Hammersla. Karla operated the hospital shortwave radio and supported various Tshikaji programs, including education of children. Cont'd on Page 3 - LAB IMCK



Jean Batena with new microscope

Thanks to the Medical Staff of IMCK: IMCK has a medical staff of eleven doctors. In 2014*, they directed services for over 23,000 patient visits, over 700 deliveries of babies, & 3,452 hospitalizations. 29 medical students and 5 medical residents served under this staff.

- **Dr. Bonard Djongesongo Djamba**, MD - Provides service in medicine and surgery.
- **Dr. John Rand Fletcher** MD, Surgeon - Provides service in surgery and serves as Hydro Manager.
- **Dr. Alphonse Kabasele Kabotabuabo** DDS. Director of Dental Service. Provides dental services.
- **Dr. Bruno Kapingamulume Kalala** MD, MA Public Health, Chief of Tshikaji Health Zone. Provides service in public health & pediatrics.
- **Dr. Pepe Banza Kalenda** MD, Family Practice - Director of Education & Chief of Surgical Service. Directs education program for medical residents & medical students. Family practice service.
- **Dr. Roger Kapembu Kanda** MD, Ophthalmologist. Chief of Ophthalmology Service and provides ophthalmology service.
- **Dr. Alex Mvita Kande** MD - Chief of Pediatrics Service. Provides service in pediatrics.
- **Dr. Serge Makolo Kazadi** MD, MA Public Health - Provides service in Internal Medicine.
- **Dr. Samuel Ntumba Lumbamba** MD - Chief of Internal Medicine Service. Provides service in internal medicine.
- **Dr. Jean Jacques Mulalu Ntumba** MD - Chief of PAX Clinic. Provides service in medicine, surgery, obstetrics, gynecology.
- **Dr. Jean Mukendi Tshitadi** MD - Chief of OB/GYN.. Provides service in obstetrics and gynecology.

Submitted by Bernard Kabibu *Statistics for first 9 months of 2014

SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM MINUTES OF THE LAST IMCK BOARD MEETING

Page 2

The IMCK Board met November 11 & 12, 2014, opening with prayers and a meditation. Attendees are listed on page 4. The agenda for the meeting was: 1) Chairman Address, 2) Minutes of last meeting, 3) Activity report for first 9 months of 2014, 4) Financial Report, 5) Action plan for 2015, 6) Issues on retirement and expatriate requests, 7) Letters to Board, 8) Results of studies on two projects: Surgical Residency and PAX Renovation.

The Chairman, Larry Sthresley, stated he had served on the IMCK Board for over 20 years, and during those times there was always work to do. There have been crises, wars and strikes, but he trusts that IMCK will continue to live and to serve the population. Encouraging indications, he said, show certain disasters are finished and that IMCK must work more now to improve the lives of patients, workers and students and not just focus on disasters. "We have great and important partners," he said, "such as PCUSA, MBF, MPPC, SLU, the state, ASSP and others." He said, "We must take this opportunity to go further and to build a better future for IMCK."

The activity report reflected statistics on patient services and students enrolled at IMCK, management of 148 personnel, many maintenance and repair projects, and ongoing negotiations with the state about back taxes verses debts the government has with IMCK for medical services. Some projects cited were: a need to study causes of stillbirths at IMCK (many complicated deliveries are referred to IMCK); a need to improve job descriptions, better lab utilization, and improved 24 hour on call services.

The education activity report from ISTM (the college) reported that at the end of the 2013-14 academic year, 185 students who had enrolled a year before, passed. This is about a 71% pass rate. ISTM cited three major school difficulties: the computer room needs to be better equipped; more classrooms are critically needed, and there is insufficient dorm space. ISTM noted special thanks to the following: Rivers of the World - Congo (ROW), ASSP and FPEN for computer equipment; MBF for \$22,000 for scholarships.

The ITM (high school) report stated that at the end of the 2013 - 14 academic year, 90 of the students enrolled the year before passed. This reflects a 87% pass rate. 100% of ITM graduates, who took state boards for nursing and lab certification passed. ITM thanked those who gave scholarship money: MBF gave \$10,000 and Bethel Presbyterian Church of Columbus, OH gave \$4,000. (cont'd BOARD -p. 3)

Medical Benevolence Foundation sponsors trip to Tshikaji to evaluate water distribution:

In October of 2014, three US engineers, Dale Stanton Hoyle, Mary Clayton & Ted Mayo, worked at IMCK for a week to begin the re-design of the water distribution systems for the hospital & the station, along with water supplied at several points to the village. The scope of work being evaluated included:

1. Replace most or all pipes and fixtures in the hospital, nursing school and lab school
2. Replace all distribution piping at hospital and station
3. Repair leaks in main water tower at hospital & associated with piping at smaller water tower at station
4. Develop options for rain water catchment
5. Develop other source(s) of clean water for hospital and station (well(s), filters at Lubi River, etc.)
6. Clean water for the village

The team measured water flows, started a computer-aided design (CAD) drawing of all existing & proposed piping, discussed technology with hospital leaders, took water samples, fixed leaks, & helped replace some clogged pipe. They concluded that all hospital & station piping be replaced, due to sediment & iron build up in pipes. To prevent sediment buildup in pipes, a 100% filtration unit needs to be installed.



Since returning to the US, the team has tested the water samples, calculated needed flow rates, purchased & shipped a large filtration unit to Dr. Fletcher for installation at the Lubi, & created a first draft report of the trip. The flow-rate calcs & completion of the CAD design is continuing. The team hopes to complete the assessment project in March/April. The report will be sent to IMCK leadership for review for funding options, materials procurement, and solicitation of volunteers to help with installation at IMCK, and other tasks. Submitted by Dale Stanton-Hoyle, who led the engineer team. He stands in photo at left.

Continued - Lab IMCK:

Good Shepherd Hospital needed a microscope with a camera to help with difficult diagnoses. So last year, Medical Benevolence Foundation asked me to select the microscope, which they then purchased. Karla and I offered to transport it there. The microscope was delivered to my house, and I learned how to use it, so I could teach others how to use it. We planned a 2-week stay in Congo, most of it in Tshikaji. I packed the scope in a hard suitcase with lots of bubble wrap. It arrived without any damage. Jean Batena was in Kinshasa finishing his masters degree and returned with us to Tshikaji. He is a former student of mine, so it was good to see him again. He is an instructor at the ITM. He is also the person I trained on the microscope. Submitted by Joel Cambron



DEDICATION OF CHAPEL SET FOR JUNE 7, 2015:

Construction workers under Mr. Ilunga Munyoka have installed the chapel ceiling and completed the paint on the inside of the building and the exterior finish of the building. Work continues daily!

Would you like to go for this dedication in June? Cost will be about \$3,000 for ten days of travel. Contact Charlotte White at crulewhite@gmail.com regarding joining a small group going. This project has been in process for over ten years! Submitted by C. White

The Endowment Fund for IMCK FIMCK

was given \$20,453 in donations in December 2014. That brought the FIMCK endowment to \$276,710 by the end of 2014. Thanks to everyone for this wonderful participation and generosity! Current board members are: Dale Stanton-Hoyle, Dr. Shannon Jung, Dr. Louis Kanda, Elizabeth Ann Manier, Marcia Murray, William Rule, Dr. Tinsley Gordon Smith, Charlotte White. Would you like to participate, volunteer? If so, please consult us at FriendsofIMCK@gmail.com. To donate to the FIMCK 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.) Submitted by Friends of IMCK



MEDICAL STUDENTS AT IMCK: The Congo Protestant University Medical School in Kinshasa has been placing some of their final year medical students at IMCK for their final clinical year. They are supervised by IMCK physicians and they board in a wing of the Good Shepherd Hospital. Below is a link that allows you to see some of last year's medical students participating in morning rounds. IF you or your organization want to help provide french textbooks, otoscopes, or ophthalmoscopes for these students, please consult the last page for how to donate through MBF or Rivers of the World . Every little or big part helps! (Designate on your donation.) Students have little access to the internet, so textbooks are critical. Imagine sharing a textbook or otoscope with 20 other students! A more extensive report on medical students and residents will be given in the next newsletter. Info from Jimmy Shafe and Charlotte White. <http://www.upcongo.org/morning-rounds>

CONTINUED - BOARD MEETING: Some difficulties for ITM have been the state of lab equipment, disagreement with the state about some staff salary issues, and market food prices. (ITM feeds high school students but ISTM leaves college students to provide their own food.)

The IMCK chaplain reported on worship and Christian programs for ITM and ISTM, worship and patient visits at the hospital, worship at PAX, burial of abandoned patients, and his role in arbitrations and conflicts at all those programs. He cited challenges with worship attendance by some staff or students, his role in patient poverty, a need for Bibles and hymnbooks, and a need for IMCK to arbitrate regarding patients whose employers will not pay their bills. He closed by saying IMCK needs students to respect human dignity, the property of others, the institution's assets, and management of the common areas.

The IMCK finance report and Board finance committee report were extensive and will be summarized in the next newsletter. Other aspects of that meeting will also be addressed in the next newsletter. The IMCK Board meetings address significant strategic planning and accountability. Submitted by Charlotte White with translation help from Bill Rule

EXAMS AND TUITION: Marcia Murray teaches at IMCK in the ISTM college. Her recent email describes two matters of stress for all college students - exams and tuition. In Congo, as in many countries, students (high school and college) pay part of their tuition for a semester. The remainder must be paid before exams, or they cannot take exams! Marcia's writes on Feb 9, 2015: "February is exam month for both ITM/high school & ISTM/college. Last week was "dead week" (no classes, students study for exams) for ITM; their exams start this week. ISTM exams start the 19th. It is a busy time for the registrars (Marthe Kutekemenyi at ITM & Clement Bimine at ISTM), as all of the students scramble to get their fees paid up for the first [semester.] Without the receipt showing they are in good financial standing with the school, students will not be allowed to take exams. At ISTM, students will be issued passes/IDs that they will have to show to be able to enter the exam rooms. There is also a master list of which students take their exams in which rooms. Students taking the same exams are separated as much as possible, but it will be difficult with a freshman class of 222 students!



Keep up with USA/Congo Partnerships & News:

IMCK info is at www.imck.org & MBF info is at www.mbfoundation.org. PCUSA sites have Congo & IMCK info at <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/global/democratic-republic-congo/> Read about Congo Mission Network at <http://www.congopartners.org/> & <https://www.facebook.com/CongoMissionNetwork>. Helping Hands www.congohelpinghands.org/ & Rivers of the World Congo www.row.org work in Congo. Join IMCK face book at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Christian-Medical-Institute-of-the-Kasai-IMCK/110759025647158>. To join Congo Connections, write Annette anbwash@centurylink.net. Go to <http://www.enoughproject.org/> to learn about conflict minerals in Congo. Learn; read; act! Be involved. In partnerships, we are often inspired and blessed much more than we give!

Board Members of IMCK at the Nov 2014 meeting:

Dr. Larry Sthreshley - PCUSA Rep; Chairman of Board
 Rev. Birakara Ilowa - CMCO Representative (Mennonite)
 Mr. Tshishimbi Kasonga - CMCO Representative
 Rev. Tshidinda Mamba - CPC Representative
 Rev. Dr. Mulumba Musumbu Mukundi- CPC Rep.
 Mr. Jack Muthui - PCUSA Representative
 Mrs. Kristi Rice - PCUSA Representative
 Dr. Kabeya Tshibemba - CPC Representative
 Mr. Ntumba Tshitenge- CPC Representative
 Bope Kwete Valentin - State Representative
 Rev. Mboyamba Kabala- IMCK Representative
 Mr. Alexis Mayambi Nzamba - IMCK Representative
Current IMCK Administration:
 IMCK Director - Mr. Alexis Mayambi Nzamba
 Administrator - Mr. Bernard Kabibu Bimvulu
 Legal Representative - Rev. Mboyamba Kabala

IMCK is a Christian primary health care facility and medical education center. Its services are centered at the Good Shepherd Hospital, a 120 bed facility, and at PAX Clinic, 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 60 years.

How to make a donation to IMCK:

To give to **IMCK endowment**, go to <https://mbfoundation.secure-donor.com/fimck?> & follow 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 and other Presbyterian Organizations, 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. Give in honor or memory of someone, if desired.

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. Give in honor or memory of someone, if desired.

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 or memory of someone, if desired.

To give **DIRECTLY to IMCK**, consult Bernard Kabibu at bernardkabibu@gmail.com about how to wire money directly from your bank account into the IMCK BCDC bank (Banque Commerciale Du Congo) account in Congo.

Newsletter Matters: Contributors this month: Joel Cambron, Bernard Kabibu, Marcia Murray, Dale Stanton-Hoyle, Bill Rule, Jimmy Shafe, Charlotte White. To add/remove a name from the mailing list, write Charlotte White at CRuleWhite@gmail.com. We welcome your contributions!