



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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Christian global partnerships can give us reciprocal experiences which deepen our faith, broaden our cross cultural views, and help us “to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.” Micah 6:8. Toward that end, we often need to experience personal relationships, strive together for long term goals, and be accountable to one another. This newsletter is a small project that strives to share both to and from IMCK. Thanks to each of you in this global partnership! Charlotte White

Come to the **Congo Mission Network Meeting**, October 2 - 4, 2014, at First Presbyterian Church, Great Falls, Montana! People from the USA and the Congo Presbyterian Church of Kinshasa will gather for a conference entitled “Empowering Women, Children and Churches Through Effective Collaboration and Technology.” To learn more and register, go to <http://congopartners.org> or <https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/>

ISTM GRADUATION ISTM, the college level school of IMCK, had graduation ceremonies the last week of July. Graduating were those with a nursing degree in midwifery, or a nursing degree in pediatrics, or a degree in health administration. The next school year begins September 2014. Photos from Gibende Hippolytus



ISTM graduation: College graduates in Nurse Midwifery, Pediatric Nursing, or Health Administration.

Cared for at Good Shepherd Hospital:

Blanganayi Kalonji, age 24 years, is the third of nine children. He was working as an assistant to the driver on a road trip and went to check the fuel level in the vehicle tank. He lit a match to see inside the tank, when he suddenly saw a flame of fire towards his face. He was burned on the face, neck and ears.



Brought with these burns to be cared for at the Good Shepherd Hospital.

He was brought to a Methodist health center and then, on July 21, brought to the Good Shepherd Hospital for further care. He is being treated with chloramphenicol ointment and diazepam (Valium.) The hospital does not have the means to use the better product, a dressing made with Flammazine ointment and containing silver sulfadiazine. But you can see from the picture that the wounds are healing.

Photo and article submitted by Gibende Hippolytus

Editorial note: To conceive how this could have happened, one must surmise a remote road trip in Congo, night has fallen, the fuel gauge does not work, extra gas is carried in tins, and one is asked to check the fuel level...but no flash light.

IMCK Endowment

During the first half of 2014 the endowment has continued to grow slowly. Over \$16,000 was received in new donations from 16 persons and organizations. The investments were moved into three Vanguard mutual funds at the beginning of the year and despite the fluctuating market, they enjoyed gains and dividends of more than \$17,000, bringing the total value to \$243,357.23. While gratifying, this total increase of more than \$33,000 needs to be multiplied ten times in the second half of the year if we are to reach our goal of \$500,000 by 2015.

Toward that goal, ten presbyteries supported an overture at General Assembly (GA) in Detroit that provides the denomination's endorsement and encouragement for the IMCK Endowment. That



Bill Rule/Kabamba promoting IMCK at the June PCUSA General Assembly!

overture passed the Mission Coordination Committee by an overwhelming 65-4 with one abstention and went on to win approval from the whole plenary session on June 18 as part of the consensus agenda. Friends of IMCK maintained a display booth through five days of the GA and then followed that with a similar presence at the New Wilmington Mission Conference on July 20. About 250 packets of information about the endowment were given out at the two events and we now hope and pray for Spirit-led responses in the coming weeks and months.

Submitted by Bill Rule To give to **IMCK endowment**, go to <https://mbfoundation.secure-donor.com/fimck?> & follow the directions.



RENOVATION of PAX CLINIC

The Dental clinic, Phase II, is currently at about 80% complete. It should be operational by mid-September. All the major construction and repairs have been completed, but there is lots of work to do with furnishing and finishing touches. [The concrete shelves were installed on August 18.] The dental chairs require piping from the mechanical space, and there is some equipment to be moved.

Since the dental clinic will be joining PAX financially, there will be no need for [a separate dental] finance office, as in the original plan. Thus, the reception area and storage room had to be redesigned after walls were already going up. These redesigns seem to make more sense and be more efficient for PAX. The dentist and his assistants have also been very helpful in these late design decisions, but it means changes that take time to make. There is some money available to do the work, but we need to be selective and efficient. A solar panel system has been ordered and should arrive in August or September. This system will provide electricity for the entire wing of PAX, including the dental clinic, operating room, cashier, and observation rooms.

Women's Center: We hope to start work middle of October if possible. There is a need to finalize the design before smashing walls. Photo and report submitted by Antonio Martinez

Editorial Note: Antonio is a volunteer living in Kananga and supervising the renovation of the busy PAX Clinic in downtown Kananga. This project is sponsored by Myers Park Presbyterian Church (MPPC), Charlotte, NC, but also assisted with donations through PCUSA Global Missions. Medical Benevolence Foundation is helping to fund the dental renovations. To help with this project, make a donation to MPPC and designate FOR CONGO IMCK PAX PROJECT. Mail to 2501 Oxford Place, Charlotte, NC 28207. Call them at (704) 927-1281/Laura Leroy for questions. If you or your church wish to partner with the IMCK PAX Dental Clinic, contact George Courtney of Medical Benevolence Foundation at gcourtney@mbfoundation.org or through <http://www.mbfoundation.org>



Photo of dental clinic renovation at the second IMCK campus PAX, in the city of Kananga.

Focus on Three IMCK Board Representatives:

The IMCK Board generally meets twice a year and has the following members: 4 members of the Congo Presbyterian Community (CPC), 4 members of the Congo Mennonite Community, 4 members of Presbyterian Church USA, and a representative of the DR Congo Provincial Ministry of Health & Social Affairs. Hospital employees also attend the meeting.

For the Nov. 2014 IMCK Board meeting, the PCUSA members will be Larry Sthresley, PCUSA mission coworker; Kristi Rice, PCUSA mission coworker; Tom Cox, a member of Myers Park Presbyterian Church; and Jack Muthui, Africa Regional Manager of Medical Benevolence Foundation (MBF)



Jack Muthui

Jack Muthui is newly employed as MBF's Africa Regional Manager. Jack & his wife, Carol, & two children live in Nairobi, Kenya. He is responsible for overseeing relationships with MBF partners in Kenya, Malawi, & DR Congo. A committed Christian & dedicated hospital professional, his professional experience includes Kenya Country Coordinator with Christoffel Blindenmission (CBM) & Executive Director of the AIC-CURE International Children's Hospital. He has an MBA degree from the University of Nairobi in finance. Jack knows hospital operations as well as institutional donor processes. Jack's close proximity to partners in the region helps not only with access, but he also contributes professional insight and wisdom to the partners as well. Having an experienced hospital manager who can visit and work with each partner institution is a great benefit to our in-country partners as well as MBF and its US ministry partners. Submitted by Molly Wyenberg, MBF Association.



Kristi Rice

Kristi Rice and her husband, Robert (Bob) Rice, currently serve in Congo as mission coworkers in the service of the Presbyterian Community in Congo (CPC.) They live in Kananga. Kristi works with community development & micro finance projects of the CPC. Kristi and Bob speak the local language, Tshiluba, fluently. Submitted by Bernard Kabibu. Note: Read about the work of Kristi and Bob by going to their blog at <http://bobandkristi.blogspot.com> and also their PCUSA site at www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/rice-bob-and-kristi-2014-08/



Tom Cox

Tom Cox is an Elder at Myers Park Presbyterian Church. He has been on the Congo Team since 2008 and chairs the Congo Administration Team. He owns a software company headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina. He and his wife Millie are members of a bluegrass band called Sugar Creek. Millie is fluent in French. Submitted by Charlotte White



Director Alexis Mayambi views the new computers.

RIVERS OF THE WORLD gives Computers to ISTM

For years now, ISTM, the IMCK College, has been asking for assistance in creating a computer center for their students. In the fall of 2013, ISTM enrolled 232 college students and still had no computer center.

This past summer, Jimmy Shafe of Rivers of the World (ROW) led 12 people to visit various places in DR Congo, including Tshikaji and IMCK. ROW has been very active at Tshikaji, partnering with IMCK on many projects. While they were at Tshikaji in June, IMCK Director Alexis Mayambi asked if ROW could provide computers for ISTM. Jimmy Shafe arranged for

Omba Ngandu, ROW Congo Director, to purchase four Dell PCs, a printer, and accompanying router. Mr Ngandu returned to IMCK two weeks later with this material. THANKS to ROW!

Submitted by Charlotte White after interviewing Jimmy Shafe. Photo provided by ROW.



Administrator Bernard Kabibu escorts new computers to ISTM.

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.

The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts,
it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection. No pastoral visit brings wholeness.

No program accomplishes the church's mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

We water seeds already planted,
knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a

beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference

between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own. Amen.

Archbishop Oscar Romero

Keep up with USA/Congo Partnerships & News:
www.imck.org & <http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/global/democratic-republic-congo/> & www.mbfoundation.org . IMCK, PCUSA & MBF sites have lots of info about Congo & IMCK. Read about Congo Mission Network <http://www.congopartners.org/> & <https://www.facebook.com/CongoMissionNetwork>, Helping Hands www.congohelpinghands.org/ , & Rivers of the World www.row.org . Join IMCK face book is 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.

Board Members of IMCK at the May 2013 meeting:

Dr. Larry Sthresley - PCUSA Rep; Chairman of Board
Mr. Jeff Boyd - PCUSA Representative
Dr Mahuma Gaspard - CMCO Representative (Mennonite)
Rev. Birakara Ilowa - CMCO Representative
Mr. Tshishimbi Kasonga -CMCO Representative
Fr. Kamizelo Kianza - CMCO Representative
Rev. Dr. Mulumba Musumbu Mukundi- CPC Rep.
Dr. Patrick Kebeya Tshibemba - CPC Representative
Mr. Ntumba Tshingombe - CPC Representative
Mr. Ntumba Tshitenge- CPC 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
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 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 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 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.

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 Hippolytus, Bernard Kabibu, Antonio Martinez, Bill Rule, Jimmy Shafe, Charlotte White, Molly Wyenberg. To add/remove a name from the mailing list, write Charlotte White at CRuleWhite@gmail.com. We welcome your contributions!