



# INSTITUT MEDICAL CHRETIEN DU KASAI



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

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**A Monthly Newsletter (Usually!)**

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**Are you familiar with the geography of Congo? Where is IMCK?** To the left, find the city of Kananga with a population of over a million. IMCK has 2 busy campuses: 1) At Tshikaji, 10 miles outside the city of Kananga, the IMCK Good Shepherd Hospital & many IMCK schools are located. 2) IMCK's PAX Clinic is in downtown Kananga with many specialty clinics, an ER & 20 beds for obstetrics. IMCK provides major medical service to Kananga, & provides a high school with degrees in nursing & lab tech, college degrees in nursing & health administration, clinical sites for medical student rotations, & now administers a residency program. IMCK also operates a large public health service. Currently about five physicians lead this large medical service team. Dr. Fletcher, a PCUSA mission co-worker & surgeon, is usually there but is in the USA until October. Read more about the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) at the wikipedia site: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democratic\\_Republic\\_of\\_the\\_Congo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democratic_Republic_of_the_Congo) Inform yourself so easily! Submitted by C. White

**New Doctors arrive at IMCK Tshikaji:** Drs. Pepe Banza Kalenga and Mireille Basoluka Mvutu Banza arrived at IMCK August 30, 2012 to serve as physicians. IMCK is pleased to welcome this couple with great qualifications. People medically served by IMCK & the students of IMCK medical teaching programs will benefit greatly from this couple.



Dr. Pepe Banza Kalenga was born in Lubumbashi and is from the town of Malemba Nkulu in the Katanga Province. He married Dr. Mireille Basoluka Banza in 2007, and they have two children. (See their picture to the right.) He graduated in 1991 from Kisantu High School in Bas Congo and in 2004 from the University of Kinshasa in Medicine. He then studied at Limpopo University in South Africa and later in 2012 earned a degree from them in family medicine. Other training includes integrated management in pediatrics, management in care of people with HIV, critical care in nutrition, introduction to drug surveillance, initiating research in clinical practice, and management in human trypanosomiasis, also called sleeping sickness. His professional experience includes practicing as a physician at the Christian Hospital at Vanga, CBCO, from 2005 until this year. There he served for three years as the enseignant at the medical technical high school and later taught at the medical technical college, ISTM of Vanga. He worked one year coordinating and teaching the medical students and supervised the vaccination program. At IMCK, he will direct the medical resident program and the IMCK education program. He speaks Lingala, Kikongo, Swahili and French and has moderate knowledge of English. His motto is "All is possible to him who believes." He says he loves to work with children and he aspires to loyalty.

Dr. Mireille Basoluka Mvutu Banza was born in Matadi and is originally from the town of Mbanza-Ngoyo in the Bas Congo Province. She graduated in 1991 from high school at Lycee Vuvu Kieto in Matadi and in 2005 from the University of Kinshasa Medical School. She attended a residency in family medicine at the Protestant University of Congo. She has trained in a program providing integrated care of people with HIV. She served for two years as Assistant in Internal Medicine at the Clinics of Kinshasa University. From 2007 until 2012, she has practiced as a physician at CBCO Vanga. For the past two years, she has taught at the Vanga ISTM program, a college with various medical programs. This year, she conducted a survey at Vanga on cardiovascular diseases in the Bandundu area. She speaks Kikongo and French and says she has average knowledge in Swahili and English. Dr. Mireille loves to teach and says she dislikes unwarranted haste. Submitted by Bernard Kabibu Bimvulu

**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! See what has been done at this site and help reach the goal: [www.crowdrise.com/](http://www.crowdrise.com/)

**Meeting in USA:** On October 3, people from across the USA will gather in Newark, Delaware for the Congo Mission Network Conference, which is sponsored by the Presbyterian Church, USA (PCUSA). The title of this year's conference is "Empowerment Through Collaborative Advocacy For The Democratic Republic of Congo." See: [http://congopartners.org/2012\\_meeting/](http://congopartners.org/2012_meeting/) and note the diverse faith based and NGO participants. Senator Coons, Chairman of the African Affairs Subcommittee of the US Senate, will speak at the end of the meeting. On Oct 2 a small group will gather there to discuss strategic planning for IMCK. Attending that conference will be representatives of the IMCK Board, Congo Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Church USA, Medical Benevolence Foundation, Rivers of the World, & Friends of IMCK. Jo Stewart of Myers Park Presbyterian Church will lead that meeting. IMCK leaders in Congo have submitted a report for that meeting. Submitted by C. White



IMCK staff greet delegates from USA government. Photo by G.Hippolithe

**Patient Care at IMCK:** The following article is written by Joseph Tshimanga Kadima, an anesthetist at the Good Shepard Hospital of IMCK. He writes about Mrs. Kayiba Kayipu, who gave permission for this to be written, in order to illustrate IMCK's role, as a tertiary referral hospital to which complications are referred. Often, IMCK receives patients who have been medically served by other facilities or physicians who have actually harmed the patient due to poor training or inadequate care. In this story, note that there are no sophisticated means at IMCK for parenteral hyperalimentation (intravenous super nutritional mixture) as it is available in the USA. IMCK was founded, almost 60 years ago, to serve as a medical teaching facility. Through times of plenty and support and through times of war and hardship, IMCK has continued to serve as a faith based medical center and as a referral and teaching medical facility that attempts to hold the highest standards possible under whatever current conditions, staff and supplies exist. Editorial remarks by Charlotte White

Mrs. Kayiba Kayipu, 38 years old, is married but has no children. At another medical facility, she underwent an exploratory laparotomy and myomectomy (for removal of uterine fibroids and adhesions.) Complications developed from the surgery and gave rise to a fistula. [This is evidenced often by leaking of pus or urine or feces.] She was transferred to IMCK Good Shepherd Hospital the end of July. There she underwent surgery at which time the surgeon noted perforations in her intestines, pus, and adhesions, all as a result of the previous surgery. The IMCK surgeon repaired the perforations. After a period of subsequent surgical procedures and wound changes, the surgeon decided to remove part of the intestines and perform a colostomy. Mrs. Kayipu was quite fragile from poor nutrition and from all these interventions. She was given blood transfusions and intravenous infusions of saline, dextrose and ringers lactate. Her hematocrit was very low despite the above. We

decided to give her an egg each day for protein.

Thanks to all the care she received and continues to receive, Kayiba Kayipu has begun to recover her health despite the fact her wound is still gaping and still requires irrigation and dressing changes. Submitted by Joseph Tshimanga Kadima, IMCK Anesthetist.



Mrs Kayiba Kayipu. Photo by G Hippolithe

**Visitors to IMCK from a USA Delegation:** On August 20, IMCK was honored by a visit of a delegation from the USAID, composed of Mr. Samuel Laeuchili, US State Department and head of the delegation; Mr Richard Robinson, USAID representative in the DRC and the son of former Methodist missionaries who lived in Katanga and also at Katubue in Kasai Occidental; Colonel Lee Whiteside, Defense Attache of the US Army; and Mr. Jean Claude Kamanga Ntumba, a Congolese with the Kinshasa Press. They were traveling through Congo southward to Lubumbashi by car.

On arrival at Tshikaji, they were greeted by Mr. Alexis Mayambi Nzamba, Director of IMCK, Mr. Bernard Kabibu Bimvulu, Administrator of IMCK, & a large staff of IMCK. After arriving at the IMCK Guest House, Mr. Nzamba thanked them for their visit and expressed the gratitude & appreciation IMCK has for the contributions of USAID in the operation of IMCK, especially noting the participation of USAID support in building the hydro electric dam and the new college ISTM buildings. He noted that USAID has long been supportive of projects and medical service programs at IMCK.

Mr Laeuchili explained that the purpose of their itinerary was to better communicate with and learn from people across Congo, to visit projects funded by the USA and to evaluate the impact of those projects on the population. He stated that they were especially interested in the secret of IMCK's long continuity and endurance in medical service and teaching, while so many other projects have disappeared.

"The secret of our success and continuity," said the Director of IMCK, "lies in the respect, discipline and commitment of the staff for our motto: HONESTY, COMPETENCE and COMPASSION."

The visit ended at the IMCK Guest House with sharing a lunch that was prepared in the honor of the USA delegation. Submitted by Bernard Kabibu Bimvulu

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.



Photo by G. Hippolithe

**Sewing Program at Tshikaji:** On August 18, Jimmy Shafe of Rivers of the World (ROW) Congo-Kasai writes, "We just purchased 19 new sewing machines to replace worn out machines from 4 years of use and hauling them in and out of storage daily. The hope is to build a small building of our own with adequate storage. As you see, the instructors unloading the machines are pretty excited." Jimmy writes about the ROW sponsored program at Tshikaji called (English translation) The Sewing School for Single Mothers. The purpose is to give the mothers and their children a second chance following rape or marginalization within their society. Since 2007, there have been 108 graduates. Many of these women come to be treated at IMCK for fistula repairs, following long labors without medical deliveries or following rape. The project was suggested by Nancy Haninger, while she was working at Tshikaji. Ladies of the village had consulted her about a project to help single mothers. Jimmy reports that since the school was started, only one enrollee has withdrawn, when she got married. IMCK Administrator Bernard Kabibu Bimvulu administers the program with Rivers of the World. The Congo Presbyterian Church is notified regarding project progress and funding. ROW will be asking the IMCK Board for permission to erect a small building for this project on the IMCK land at Tshikaji. Submitted by Charlotte White



**Friends of IMCK recent donors:** Thanks to the latest donors to the \$500,00 endowment goal for IMCK: Abel B. Lushiku of White Plains, NY; St Phillip Church of Houston, TX (Church of Don Padgett); and Pat Philips of Berkeley, CA. Don Padgett and Pat Phillips previously worked at IMCK. Thanks! The money raised in the first year of Friends of IMCK now stands at \$99,301.24. To learn more about this project, go to <http://www.imck.org/>. Submitted by C. White

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 Sthreshley - PCUSA Rep; Chairman of Board
- Rev. Birakara Ilowa - CMCO Representative (Mennonite)
- Rev. Mboyamba Kabala - CPC Representative
- Mr. Tshishimbi Kasonga -CMCO Representative
- Mr. Laurent Kamizelo Kianza - 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 Kabeya Tshibemba - CPC Representative
- Dr Blaise Ndandu - IMCK Representative

**Current IMCK Administration:** [imckbusiness54@yahoo.fr](mailto:imckbusiness54@yahoo.fr)  
 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 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 the 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 it 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 it 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, Joseph Tshimanga Kadima, 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.