



Dunn's Do'ins Congo MPH Mission



IT IS WELL WITH OUR SOULS

What is going on with the Dunns during the coronavirus pandemic? We are fine and we pray the same for each of you! We remain here in Kinshasa at the MPH Guesthouse. It is by our choosing. As with the expats in many countries across the globe, we have had opportunities given to us by our embassy to repatriate us, at our expense, back to our passport issuing country, ours being the USA. Cindy and I have prayed over the decision whether to stay put or return to the US. We have not received any clear signals in our spirits that the Lord wants us to leave. We feel safe! For the month of April, MPH has put all of its workers, aside from security and the gardener, on paid “home leave” to limit their necessity to move about the city in public transportation. We are not sure what May, and beyond, will hold for the workers. MPH has closed to guests until it is deemed safe to reopen, all reservations have been canceled anyway. We have one American missionary couple who are not able to travel to their village of ministry up country because the Democratic Republic of Congo has suspended any, and all, travel between provinces until further notice. Earlier in the pandemic, we had a German missionary doctor, who lives and works at a mission station, who was required to self-quarantine for fourteen days before he was allowed to travel by road to his village. With three people in quarantine and no employees, Cindy and I were cooking and delivering meals to the guests twice a day! Now, we are a family of four sharing the kitchen duties, trying new recipes, and eating at our leisure. We all feel that we are safe inside the confines of the MPH property, with extremely limited contact to outside world. We feel that God is still using us for his ministry here at MPH even though the building is all but empty. Believe it or not, there are still a lot of things to do to keep a building of this size in working order, even without a house full of guests.

The DRC government has taken many of the same precautions with which each of you are living. Churches are prohibited from gathering. Those with the resources are online. We are actually able to “attend” the International Protestant Church of Kinshasa on YouTube or Facebook Live in the morning, as well as The Bridge Christian Fellowship in Chesapeake, VA in the afternoon! It is great for our sanity and security! Certain areas of Kinshasa and Goma (in the east) are on “lock down” for fourteen days. Our area is open, but we are not moving. There are no incoming

To support our mission, send funds to:

Appointment Congo
PO Box 98764
Raleigh, NC 27624

Make checks payable to:
Appointment Congo

Designate for:
DUNN-MPH Guesthouse
or give online at:
appointmentcongo.org

Contact Us:
 Clay and Cindy Dunn
clayandcindycongo@gmail.com
clayandcindy.weebly.com

flights. Outgoing flights seem to be only the before mentioned evacuation flights of various countries. There is no domestic passenger air traffic to other parts of DRC and extremely limited, permitted, travel by road. Public transportation is restricted by the number of passengers per type of vehicle.

Mourning gatherings and funerals are not allowed. I really do not know what the people of this culture are doing. The traffic beyond our walls moves, but it is eerily quiet. There are not many hawkers calling out the various destinations of their taxi-buses.

COVID-19 is here! To date there are 217(?) cases country-wide. There have been some deaths, some recoveries and some cases improving, or heading toward death. I apologize that I do not have fixed numbers, but there are numbers and all are rising, daily. As I mentioned earlier, we are being very cautious. We are not going outside the gates of MPH. We are limiting who comes into the parcel. Only Cindy and I and our two guests are allowed in the main parts of the building. We are doing lots of hand washing and hand sanitizing, glove and mask wearing when prudent, and lots of surface sanitizing. I must say that the security guards must be bored, because we are doing all of the inside work. But, still, we feel that the Lord has called us to continue our ministry through this pandemic. We see some of our friends leaving on the repatriation flights, yet we don't fault or judge them because it is right for them. We have not been called to leave. But it does make us a bit lonely.

Please continue to pray for us, our safety, the health and safety of our staff and for our guests. We need your prayers, and financial support, now more than ever! We know that the entire world is being stretched thin by this pandemic, and so are we. We thank each of you that have supported us throughout the years. But we implore you to not give up on us now. We continue to require your support.

CAN MPH CATCH A BREAK?

MPH Guesthouse has had too many lean years! 2016, 2017, and 2018 were extremely slow years due to political unrest in DRC. 2019 showed an increase in guests and conference activity and yielded a small profit. Unfortunately, it was not enough to replenish for the previous "red" years. We were looking for 2020 to be a recovery year. Obviously, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, that is not going to happen on its own! Many of you, through various sources, will be receiving an appeal from Paul and Marty Law, our missionary partners at Appointment Congo, to help MPH Guesthouse through this pandemic of minimal income and continuing expenses. We encourage you to take this appeal seriously; to pray and see how you can help keep MPH operating for your future ministry trips to Congo. If you are receiving this newsletter as an email, you will receive a copy of their appeal as an attachment. We hesitate to say it, but feel it needs to be made clear, that this support to MPH is in *addition* to any support you may already be giving to us personally. Again, we thank you for keeping our ministry alive!