

412 Edgewood Drive
Nicholasville, KY 40390
May 2006

Family Update:

Paul and I arrived in Kinshasa, DR Congo, on March 2nd to purchase and ship supplies for the Katako Kombe Camp Meeting Project. The Camp Meeting site is in the interior east of Lodja and the project is to rebuild and restore this historical place of spiritual renewal and revival for the United Methodist Church in Central Congo.

The day after we left the United States, my father kicked a rocking chair in his stocking feet and ended up with a splinter and cellulites in his right foot. He was in the hospital for 10 days and had to have two surgeries.

I had to return home immediately to care for my mother, having only been in Congo for 9 days. Praise the Lord though, one of our Methodist laymen in Kinshasa loaned me a driver and a pick-up truck and I was able to purchase everything we needed in the way of food and household supplies for the work team that is going out this summer.

The Lord has marvelously healed my father. One positive thing that has come out of this situation is that this past Friday, May 12, we moved my folks into a wonderful assisted living facility in Lexington, KY. Now when we go to the Congo for 3 months on June 2nd I can rest assured that they are in capable hands.

On April 19th, our youngest daughter, Stacy and her husband, Franco, welcomed Anna Catherine into their family. She was 20 inches long and weighed almost 9 lbs. She is beautiful and loved by all. Our new little family is getting settled into their new life.

On May 26th, our oldest daughter Stephanie, will graduate with her Doctorate in Psychology from the Rosemeade Graduate School at Biola University in the Los Angeles area. Needless to say, we are proud of Stephanie's hard work for the past five years and for all that the Lord is going to do through her ministry in this area.

Our son, Burleigh and his wife, Holly, are expecting their fourth child at the end of October. She/he will be welcomed by Caleb, Joshua and Rachel. Burleigh works as a structural engineer with a firm in downtown Indianapolis. We are deeply grateful to the Lord for our children and their families as they grow and walk with the Lord. What an assurance that is!

Congo Update

On June 2nd, we depart Lexington, KY with nine members of the work team to restore the camp meeting at Katako Kombe. Two days later, three more will join us in Kinshasa. All of the supplies are purchased. All of the food supplies are already in Lodja. They went up by military air transport. The Minister of National Defense is from Central Congo and graciously assisted us with getting everything there safely.

We are still waiting for the river boat and barge to be loaded with the building supplies and equipment, such as roofing, cement and the truck, and to leave Kinshasa!

This delay means that we will be doing a small project in Kinshasa on our way through. We will then go to Lodja, where we will finish repairing the sawmill and perhaps even do some initial sawing of boards for the camp meeting.

I will need to go through several of our barrels to check for cooking and household utensils as well. Part of the work team may scrape, clean, paint and do other repairs jobs on the house where we will be living when we return later as full time missionaries.

Upon the arrival of the boat and truck, we will immediately head toward Katako Kombe and begin the work of rebuilding the camp.

Prayer Requests:

1. The major request is the timely loading, departure and travel of the river boat from Kinshasa to the interior with the building supplies for the project.
2. We need good health and protection for all.
3. Team unity and adjustment to the isolation at Katako.
4. We need your prayers on a regular basis for the three months that we will be gone-June through August.

We rest assured that God knows each of the days He has designed for us this summer and for the work team, for the projects He has for us to do at each place that we will visit. Our ways are not His ways nor our thoughts His thoughts. He is teaching us patience and how to “rest” in Him. He is sovereign in all things.

Please visit our web site, if you have not yet, at: www.appointmentcongo.org for pictures, updates and earlier newsletters.

Blessings,

Marty and for Paul, too

PS. Tax-deductible gifts for support can be sent to:

Covenant Church International
12621 Strickland Rd.
Raleigh, NC 27613

Please note in the memo: Congo/Law