

Visit to Congo

September 2016

For the sixth year in a row, a team from National Community Church in Washington DC made the long journey to spend time with the children and staff at Congo for Christ, Uvira, Democratic Republic of Congo. A few of the team members have gone all six years, others a few of the years, and for some this was their first visit. All reports indicated this was an especially meaningful trip that greatly strengthened the bonds of love and friendship with our Congolese brothers and sisters. In fact, our friends in Congo made an emphasis of telling the team members that they no longer consider them their guests, they consider them friends.



New clothing sewn and donated by members and friends of Diane's church, Sterling Drive Church of Christ, Bellingham, WA

I have asked one of the team members, Diane Helke, to share a few thoughts about the trip:

Our son, Ricky, has been traveling to Uvira every summer for the past six years. Through him we came to care very much about the children and adults at Congo for Christ (CCC). We began sponsoring two of the children, and enjoyed hearing about them and how things were progressing at CCC. In 2015 Ricky asked me to join the mission team from National Community church on their annual trip. I went with a very small team of five, and felt so fortunate to be able to serve alongside my grown son and the others on the team. The trip itself was grueling for someone who

had never ventured very far from home, but once there I fell in love with the children and adults alike. The love that flows there is like no other, and they are all permanently embedded in my heart.



Diane with new friends in Congo

This year, my husband, Rich, also joined the team. While he was already a big supporter, meeting our friends and loved ones in Congo has touched him deeply. My role was mainly one with the kids, but Rich helped out in the training sessions on project management and bookkeeping. The staff at CCC and Mango Tree School soaked up all of the information that was brought to them through the various training



Love this drum set!

sessions and asked for more. They truly have hearts for the Lord and His work in Congo.

We think of our Congolese brothers and sisters every day. We are hoping and praying for the opportunity to go back.
Diane

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Over 1,000 children attended the feeding program church service and lunch while the NCC team was at CCC



CCC orphans lead praise and worship for the community feeding program worship service

While it is true that a trip to CCC is a life-changing experience, it is also true that the love and support you give each and every month through your prayers and donations is equally life changing for the orphans in Congo. They depend on your gifts to supply food, clothing, medical care, education and so much more. Thank you for your continued support and love for these precious children!



The mamas work hard to feed and care for the children

Orphan Sponsorship Changes Lives

\$35 per month provides basic support for an orphan:

- Safe environment to live and grow
- Adequate food and nutrition
- Clean water
- Medical care
- Biblical teaching and spiritual guidance
- Critical life skills and training

\$12 additional monthly support provides an orphan:

- Safe and quality education
- School books and supplies
- School uniform and shoes

We currently have five orphans that need sponsorship at CCC in Congo. There are also several orphans in Fizi, Congo that need education sponsors. Several girls in Thailand are needing a sponsor as well.

If you would like to make a difference in the life of one of these precious children, please visit our website at www.global-outreach.net and sign up to become a sponsor today.

Would your church, Sunday School class, small group or business be interested in sponsoring a project ? We have many projects available in all price ranges that would greatly impact the life of any group you choose. Some examples include: \$350 for a well for church/orphanage in India, \$200 for school supplies for orphans in Myanmar, \$1,545 for sound equipment for feeding program in Congo. Please contact us if you would like additional information. I promise you, we will find a project to match your group.

We are also seeking small groups or homes that will allow us to personally share about the ministry of Global Outreach. Please contact us for more information or to schedule a visit.

From the bottom of our hearts thank you for joining with us to love and care for hurting orphans. Bill & Renee Reed