

P.O. Box 618, Orange Beach, AL 36561

www.global-outreach.net Phone: 928-642-3658

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NCC Hosts Pastor Jeremiah

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Sunday morning, April 23, 2017 found us in worship at the Lincoln Theatre Campus of National Community Church in Washington DC. With tears in our eyes and joy in our hearts, it felt like a dream come true to witness Pastor Jeremiah and Asumani on stage with Pastor Dave Schmidgall. Pastor Dave is the



International Missions Pastor for National Community Church (NCC). Last year, Pastor Dave joined the NCC mission team for their sixth annual mission trip to Congo for Christ in Uvira. While in Congo, Pastor Dave invited Pastor Jeremiah, Daniel and Asumani to visit NCC in 2017. After applying for a visa to visit America, Jeremiah was approved, however Daniel and Asumani were denied visas. Pastor Jeremiah left Congo on April 13th for America. That same day, Asumani was given a second interview and was granted permission to apply for a visa, a process that usually takes up to two weeks. Miraculously, he received his visa the next day and was able to join Pastor Jeremiah in DC for the remainder of the visit.

Various NCC Congo mission team members hosted them and introduced them to many new things for their first visit in America. They graciously allowed us to spend a day with them. We were able to introduce them to several of the Global Outreach

Board members. We were also able to send many items that have been donated back to Congo with them. (A big thanks to all the ladies in Prescott that have been sewing for the girls!)



Front left to right: Pastor Jeremiah, Asumani, Bill Back: Chris, Nancy, Renee, Kim

The hours we spent with our dear brothers allowed us the opportunity to discuss many things and learn more ways we can continue to help them. We are happy to be able to share some of these needs with our faithful and generous Global Outreach partners:

• The most urgent need is to improve the water system that supplies the Congo for Christ Center and surrounding community. You may recall that asking for prayer for water at a church service at NCC in April 2010, was what connected CCC and NCC together in a partnership that continues and grows year by year (see May and July, 2011 newsletters on our website.) Currently, CCC ends up going for a week or longer at a time without any water, requiring them to carry it in jugs up the mountain for a long distance. The intake from the river needs to be changed as well as building a better foundation. They also need to keep a good supply of pipes on hand so they can be quickly replaced when damaged. We are awaiting the esti-

mate, but expect it to be about \$5,000 to improve the water supply.

- Completing the security wall. We shared this need in last month's newsletter. We still need \$14,000 to complete this very important project. We learned that the area of Uvira where CCC is located is one of the two poorest regions of the city with a large problem of alcohol, drugs and crime. The completed wall will greatly increase the safety of the children.
- Mango Tree School needs a ceiling. At the time of construction we did not have the funds to complete the ceiling so they started school without it. The ceiling is needed to protect the classrooms as well as provide insulation during the rainy season from the loud rain on the roof. These conditions make it difficult for the children to hear the teacher. \$6,000 is needed to complete the ceiling and paint the school.
- Feeding program for the community children continues to bring positive change in the area surrounding Congo for Christ. Several families are now attending church and even the crime and alcohol problems in the area are improving. Over 1,000 children are now fed twice a month! They would love to provide this lunch every week for the children. Some of the children who attend have not eaten for up to two days at a time. It costs \$300 to feed 1,100 children. They also hear a gospel message. CCC

staff members have made visits to homes of several of the children to follow up with help and encouragement.



Community children are eager to be fed—spiritually and physically

We wish all of our partners had the opportunity to meet Pastor Jeremiah and Asumani. We had the privilege to once again hear first-hand his testimony and the part Global Outreach has played in supporting him for many years. We truly feel humbled and honored to be a part of his ministry and vision to reach the people of Congo for Christ. You are all an important part of this and many other ministries supported by your faithful and generous giving.

Guess what \$1 will buy!



Pastor Jeremiah prays for congregation at Sebele

Congo for Christ Missionary Church has birthed two other congregations since its inception. One of these is in Sebele, 124 kilometers south of Uvira. Pastor Jeremiah gave us an update about this church. About five years ago we donated the money for them to purchase about twenty acres of

land. We were happy to learn that the church continues to grow and has a congregation of approximately sixty members at the present time. The church members have been building bricks for a church and currently are working at digging the foundation by hand. Pastor Jeremiah said they are planning to visit the Sebele church soon and desire to bring 100 orange trees for them to plant. When we asked how much an orange tree will cost we were pleasantly surprised to learn only \$1 will buy a tree. When we asked if they already have the money to purchase the trees, Pastor Jeremiah smiled and said no, but they are praying that God will provide. For \$1 per tree, dear partners, I am confident that we can provide 100 trees or more to start the orchard in Sebele. Perhaps your children or grandchildren would like to buy a few trees for hungry children in Congo.