

# New School in Fizi

April 2018



Pastor Fred (left) and Pastor Jeremiah

We met Pastor Fred on our first visit to Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) nearly eight years ago. He and Pastor Jeremiah, founder and leader of Congo for Christ (CCC), are friends from their time together as

students at Nairobi Bible College. Pastor Fred serves as the founder and senior Pastor of African Evangelical Christian Churches. He oversees twenty-seven churches scattered throughout several territories. Impressed by his dedication and humble spirit, we have had a desire to help Pastor Fred since we first met him.

Pastor Fred has funding from another source to provide for the care of the thirty three children at the orphanage under his supervision but has struggled to pay school expenses for all of the children. We began a sponsorship program to help with the school expenses and several of you sponsor one or more of these orphans with a \$12 monthly education sponsorship. In 2014 Pastor Fred was able to establish a school near the orphanage in Fizi Territory. This school is called "Complexe Scolaire Bustani" or Garden School. In 2015 Pastor Fred explained that most of the 364 students attending the school are



Parents of students made 31,000 bricks of mud and straw for school building.

from very poor families and can only pay very small amounts for school fees. In order to help the school the parents of the students got together and constructed 31,000 bricks out of mud and straw. Pastor



364 primary students now attend Garden School in Fizi, DRC

Fred requested our assistance in funding an oven to fire the bricks, which we were able to provide. The bricks are still waiting to be used. The school continues to operate even though the facilities they are using are very modest and not able to withstand the elements. The school not only currently serves 364 primary students, but it is also used in the afternoon and



Current school classrooms are used for primary classes as well as secondary school classes each day.

evening for secondary school which is equivalent to high school in America. There are currently 198 secondary students.

It is our desire to provide encouragement to help these parents and teachers through funding the foundation of a new school building. The foundation will be about \$10,000 with the entire building costing about \$35,000. Every donation to this project is a gift of love investing in a brighter future for so many precious children in DRC.

Great Opportunity in Bosnia!



We could immediately sense Pastor Karmelo’s excitement as he recently shared the long awaited opportunity to purchase a church building in Mostar, Bosnia. He explained the struggle the church has gone through in trying to obtain property. They purchased land in

1999 but have been unsuccessful in nearly twenty years to obtain a building permit from the city. Since 2011 they have not had the funds to rent a space and have been using a very small space from a Christian youth organization that is slated for demolition this year.

The business zoned space on the first floor of this building was listed at a price of over \$300,000, but now they can purchase two floors in this modern building for \$120,000. The first floor is about 1500 square feet and move in ready. The basement with 1228 square feet of space needs minor renovations.

Pastor Karmelo sent this plea for help:  
*After many years of looking and praying,*

*God has opened up the door for this property, but we need your help as soon as possible so that we don’t lose this opportunity. The price of real estate in Mostar is very high. We need about \$50,000 to help us buy this property, pay all the taxes and fees, and do some minor renovations that will allow us to move in.*

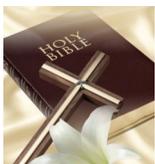
(left to right) Karmelo & Ivon, Mike Mellison, Renee & Bill



While visiting the churches in Bosnia we were so impressed with the level of commitment and desire to share the good news of Jesus in this struggling country. The war took a huge toll on the nation and especially the Christian community. We would love to help fund the purchase of this much needed space for the church in Mostar. One hundred percent of every gift designated for this need will be sent to Pastor Karmelo to help make this opportunity a reality.

**Update on Pastor Jeremiah’s son, Ngena in Congo**

Thank you to each of you who have already responded to the urgent request we sent for help in paying for Ngena’s surgery and hospital stay. We are still short of the total funds needed, so every donation for this critical need is greatly appreciated. The surgery should take place this week. Thank you for your continued prayers for his complete recovery.



*In Loving Memory  
Of  
Pearl Rodman  
By her son  
Bruce Rodman*



*For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will all be changed.”  
I Corinthians 15:52*