

NCC Team Visit to Congo

August 2023



Front row: Daniel and Nehome with their five daughters. Back row: Pastor Jeremiah and Georgette, Salama, Chantal, Asumani.

It has been four years since any Global Outreach team has been able to visit our dear friends at Congo for Christ Center (CCC). During that time Pastor Jeremiah (top row, left) suffered a stroke and was extremely ill for an extended period of time. He ended up having heart surgery last fall in India and Bill and Renee were able to visit him there. Thankfully, a team



NCC Team members at the airport with friends from CCC.

from National Community Church (NCC) in Washington DC was recently able to return to CCC. It was an especially joyous time because Pastor Jeremiah was well enough to be at CCC for the team visit.



Nearly 3,000 community children were excited to attend the worship service and lunch while the team was there.

NCC team members, Rich and Diane Helke have made several trips to CCC and reported much progress has been made since their last visit. In particular, they mentioned what a tremendous blessing the new chapel is and how it is used for many events. Rich graciously provided a brief summary of their trip:

In the latter part of June, a team sponsored by National Community Church in Washington DC returned to the Congo for Christ Center (CCC) in Uvira, Democratic Republic of Congo. It was the first time the team has been able to travel there since summer 2019. The team of seven included two individuals making their first trip. It was a great time of renewing friendships face-to-face as well as establishing new ones with the over 20 children that have come to the Center since the team last visited. Members of the team led training sessions throughout the week in topics such as teaching techniques and strategies, project management,

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budgeting, and personal hygiene for the girls. They also helped serve at the community feeding program where nearly 3,000 children were expected. Overall, it was a jam-packed week of activities and sharing and caring. As usual, the NCC team was blessed by the hospitality and love shown them, at least as much as it is hoped the children and staff at CCC were blessed by the visit.



The girls were thrilled with the new dresses!

We are thankful to all who made the NCC Team visit a reality. It means so much to our friends in



Top: old road continues to wash away.
Bottom: Great progress on new road!

Congo to have a personal visit. In addition to the visit, Sterling Church of Christ, which is the Helke's church, is funding a major project to build a road up the mountain to provide access to CCC. This is a project that has been needed for years as the dirt road has continued to deteriorate and become impassable.



The older students at CCC worked hard to prepare the food for the feeding program lunch.



NCC Team members serving at the community feeding lunch.

The children at CCC will be returning to school in September and we need to send funds for their school supplies. Last year the children were able to use supplies such as uniforms and book bags from the previous year. This year Daniel is requesting book bags, uniforms, shoes and the usual books, pens and pencils they need every year. The thirty six primary students need \$60 per child and the twenty one secondary students need \$75 per student. The total needed comes to \$3,735. We realize we may not be able to supply all of this amount, so we are hoping to send at least half of it. Any gift for this project will be greatly appreciated!

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