

Divine Connections!

September 2021

Every donation received at Global Outreach and passed along to one of our ministry partners around the world creates an important connection. We are well aware that every donor and every person we help has a story that deserves to be shared. This month we share a story that begins about twenty-five years ago in Japan.



Left to right: Heidi, John, Kim, Julie, Andy in Iwakuni, Japan

Our family was living in Iwakuni, Japan where Bill was stationed as a Chaplain serving U.S. Marines. We were involved in the Iwakuni Base Chapel and our children who were teens at the time, attended the chapel youth group. Heidi and her brother John, who also attended the chapel, were friends

with our children. In the years since then, Heidi mar-



Children at Agape are excited to have clean water to drink! Currently they need a water pump and light to be run by a generator. The military coup has resulted in huge cutbacks of water and electricity. The cost of both items is \$500.



The Gray family enjoy the pictures of the children at Agape in Myanmar. Notice Rob is on a zoom call to join the family fun.

ried Rob Gray, and they have four children. Rob is a doctor in the US Air Force and they are currently stationed in Japan.

Heidi and her family were touched by the June 2021 story in our newsletter about the needs of the children at Agape Children's Home in Myanmar. In response, the Gray family donated the funds to purchase the water purifier and freezer that was requested. After the items were purchased, we received pictures from Pastor Richard at Agape which I forwarded to Heidi. She told me that they were waiting to open the email and see the pictures until Rob, who was away on deployment, could join them on a zoom meeting. Since then, the Gray children have exchanged letters with the children at Agape and keep each other in their prayers. This connection has brought joy to both the Gray family and the Agape family.

Isn't it amazing how God brings about connections among his family of believers, regardless of time or space? Even though you may not have experienced the joy of a personal connection like the Gray family, please know that through your generous gifts, you are making very real and life-changing connections that will last for eternity. **On behalf of all the precious souls who are being impacted through your gifts, thank you!**

Girls Seminar at CCC

After Congo for Christ (CCC) started the feeding program for community children in 2016, it soon became apparent that something was also needed to minister to the teens in the community. Every month more than 300 teens come to the new chapel at CCC for a day long seminar which includes Bible teaching as well as lunch.



Training for community teen girls at Congo for Christ

In August the seminar was a special time of training just for the girls. In spite of school testing which prevented some of the girls from attending, 153 girls were able to participate. A guest speaker

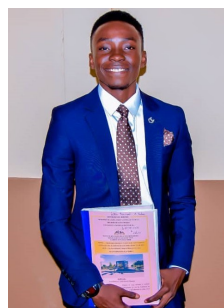
from a woman's organization called Hero Women Rising in Bukavu, DRC came to teach the girls about hygiene and health issues. Two of the primary goals of this organization are to help girls stay in school and maintain their dignity. In addition to the training they were each given a hygiene kit which will help them with their monthly needs. We have supplied the girls at Congo for Christ with similar kits and other supplies but the community girls were in dire need of these necessities. Daniel said "the girls were very happy to be trained and receive the kits. Thank you so much for all the support that you have given for these programs."



Girls are happy to get kits.

This is just another example of things we take for granted, but which can be a huge problem to our friends in other nations. If you would like to contribute to this important program of reaching teens with the love of Jesus, please designate your gift for Congo teen ministry.

Another University Graduate at Congo for Christ



We are proud of Washikala.

Washikala Assumani never knew his father who died shortly after his birth. After losing her husband, his mother turned to alcohol and left Washikala in the care of his aunt. At the age of eight, he moved to Uvira with his mom and aunt. During those years he often had to miss school and was not able to complete the school term. His sisters eventually fled to a refugee camp in Tanzania. He said

"our lives were so miserable and we hated everything in life." His aunt was Muslim and forced him to study the Koran and attend Islamic programs.

In 2011 when Congo for Christ (CCC) was registering children for the orphanage, one of the Congo for Christ church members knew his story and was able to get him accepted at CCC. After joining the CCC family his life improved drastically.

After much training and teaching he came to view Christianity as much better than Islam. After some years living at CCC he gave his life to Christ, resulting in rejection from his aunt. He said "I knew even though my biological family can leave me, there is a bigger family which won't leave me."

He studied very hard and graduated secondary school in 2017. It was a dream come true for him to be able to attend university. He studied for four years at Lumiere University in Burundi, and has earned a Bachelor of Civil Engineering.

When Daniel asked him about his future plans he shared that he desires to help with construction at CCC as well as opening a design office for construction in Uvira. He wants to serve the community through his skills and bring in new values to the construction industry that has been marred by deceit and incompetence. Truly, your support has given this young man hope for a bright future! To God be the glory! **Congratulations Washikala!**