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### Third Quarter 2025

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#### **Congo-My Macedonia**

*"For when we were come into Macedonia our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled on every side, without were fightings, within were fears." II Corinthians 7:5*

I can still remember where I was, what I was doing and even much of the conversation on the day I received a call from someone in the DR Congo asking me to come over and help them. I knew that day the Congo was my "Macedonia." God immediately confirmed it with Scripture. Unbeknownst to me, the call came as a result of a Congolese family I met in Philadelphia seven years earlier while evangelizing with my nephew. I spoke to the family with the few words I remembered from a trip my wife and I had taken ten years previous. Those few words of a heart language spoke and seven years later received a call for Congo. Looking back, I realize God had been laying things out all along. As explained before, God did many miracles to get us to DRC and the Pygmies to start Moyoni Baptist Church. While God has continued His miraculous works, I admit I have had much difficulty resting. I have felt troubled on every side, faced fighting without and fears within. I have woken up many nights sweating, full of fear; faced battles without since that call. It seems every giant I had not conquered within also reared its ugly head. Not long ago, this began to make sense as I read II Corinthians 7:5. It was a battle for the souls of the Congolese and Satan is withstanding the advance upon his kingdom. However, God continued to move forward as Bro Paul (Congolese missionary partner) visited the Pygmies. Churches began to see the need for Scriptures in Congo. God provided opportunity to help with orphans and widows when war broke out again. Pages could be filled with all that has transpired. In April, the first container of John & Romans was due to arrive in DRC. Circumstances caused a delay in the container as well as my trip to meet it. The government fee of \$4000 had been set aside for its arrival in Lubumbashi. By the time it arrived, over \$7000 had been paid for agents and fees. Each

...nating process. The import tax would be \$5000, and a large fee was requested immediately, or the process would need to begin again. Humiliated and defeated, I sent a message to close friends that I had lost the container. They reminded me it was God's container, not mine. As I planned to go to Congo, praying for a miracle, I received a call that \$5000 was being sent by an individual. The funds were immediately applied! Our Congolese partners informed us that an additional \$1500 was needed for parking and exit clearance fees. The Congolese believers paid this final hurdle themselves! My heart was overwhelmed. Truly, this was a "Philippi" experience. *"Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia; How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints."* II Corinthians 8:1-4. Weeks later, as Grant, Brett and I were praying about taking a trip to Congo and Moyoni Baptist Church, I received a text from Bro. Paul that he had just returned from there. This left little doubt that God was in the upcoming trip. Funds for the tickets have already been provided! Looking for a misplaced paper in my desk, I came across the iPad that Bro. Paul had asked to be repaired. Later, God brought someone to my mind that uses Apple products. I felt led to ask them for help. They replied, "I have an iPad for sale online right now. I will mail it to you." It is currently on my desk ready to take to Congo. As my good friend, Roy Thompson, says, "You can't make this stuff up!" While ecstatic that God got the Bibles through, we still have a need of \$9999.00 to pay the shipping company. This amount may seem astronomical, but it will total less than fifteen cents per John/Romans. We can't send a letter in America for that! Calvary Baptist Church of Memphis is sending a container of their own, and funds for a third container, which is being filled by Bearing Precious Seed in Ohio, is still needed. One of my goals is to secure a better system for receiving these containers and a possible printing operation in Congo. Please be in prayer for these needs. The following link will provide you with a PDF for the Bible Project.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QkGXzeos0CtB9malqUwg8-vy4o2Lzm-c/view?usp=sharing>



The church building project in Dompas has gone well. An additional \$10,000 is needed to complete the construction of the church.

Community Baptist Church in Sault Ste Marie, Michigan, graciously began supporting Pastor Nicholas in Apewu. He can now focus on the work of the ministry, after faithfully leading the church there for almost seven years without financial support. What a great investment opportunity!



### **GAP-Gems Apprenticeship Program**

#### **Grant's Update:**

It never fails to amaze me how the love of Christ draws believers together while sending them in that unity to reach the lost. This was displayed on my recent trip to Zimbabwe/South Africa. By the time we reached the Zimbabwe village, five Americans from three churches, two Bible school students from South Africa, the local South African missionaries and their son were assembled together. How do so many people from so many places come together in unity? What transcends cultural class? That which drives us to seek the lost far overseas is the same as that which causes a poor farmer to leave his neighborhood for a day and prioritize fishing for the souls of men. The same spirit calls both to seek the harvest, but more importantly, to seek the Lord of said harvest. As we draw close to Love, He radiates through us to our fellow man. I was excited to visit Zimbabwe for the first time. I enjoyed good fellowship travelling with a recently graduated friend from my home church to Johannesburg, South Africa. In South Africa, we spent a few days fellowshiping with the South African missionaries and students and then attended a local church on Sunday. On Monday, we traveled across into Zimbabwe. Border crossings in Africa are always a concern, but all went smoothly. Upon our arrival at the church, we set up camp and began outreach the next day. We were able to witness to many people in the street, the market and even in some homes where relatives had passed. In the evenings, we gave our testimonies and held services. During the week, I sustained a concussion while playing soccer with the young men. Thankfully, by God's grace, I was able to participate in most activities despite the injury. We had gained several friends in the Lord, dropped off 100 audio Bibles with a South African pastor for our Congolese contact, and had an opportunity to visit an orphanage and minister to the



### **Brett's Update:**

So often I find that God does amazing things, yet I do not recognize them for what they are. When I take a minute and sit back realizing what God has done and is doing, I find that He's doing incredible things. Since I was young, God has put the Chinese on my heart and has continually brought this back to my mind. In the last few years especially, He has increased the sense of call and given me the wonderful opportunity to get involved with Chinese people. About a year and 1/2 ago my family and I went to a church near where we live. After we arrived, we found that there was a Chinese man and wife that had just started coming to the church. He had come from China only a few weeks prior and chose that particular church to attend. He decided he liked it and stayed. Dad talked to him about my desire to go to China and the man offered to teach me Mandarin! Talk about timing and placement. God has done things so often to show me where he wants me to be. Now it is more of a question of obedience than direction. To make a long story short, I have been learning Mandarin and have been able to be involved in a Bible study with unsaved Chinese people. I was able to give a short talk to several in which I tried to present the relationship Jesus wants with us. What an amazing opportunity! I'm so thankful God has allowed me to be a part of this work and for those who have encouraged me to follow God.



### **Congo Orphans & Widows**

When the war broke out in DR Congo last year, a contact in Congo in the war zone sent me a



and looking up at the camera, my heart broke with compassion, and I immediately asked how I could help these children. Since that day, we have had the great opportunity to help start an orphanage where widows care for the children. We provide food for 70 orphans as well as providing for the education of 20 of them. The widows receive job training, and we have sent several to sewing school. Sewing machines were purchased so they can make a living. (For security purposes videos and photos may not be displayed) Please pray with us for these precious souls



### **Faith Haven**

God has once again done amazing things concerning the Haven. Finishing the first apartment while continuing to demo for future construction, we set a goal in August to get water, heat and electricity so the apartments can be finished during the winter months. I went to the well, opened it and realized immediately that I needed a certain tool to pull the pump to check on the condition of the pipe, wire and pump before testing the well. I asked Tim Teed, a member of Northstar Baptist Church, if he had the tool and if so, would he let me borrow it. He responded that he had the tool, but I could not borrow it because he wanted to come and help me check everything. Since the well had sat totally unused for over 35 years, he didn't know if we could get water from it or if the pump would work. We prayed it would work to save thousands of dollars on a new well. With his expertise we got the well to produce water using his pump. Hallelujah! Then Tim hooked up my pump that had not run in 35 years, said a prayer, and the water flowed! What a gracious God we serve. An application for electricity to be restored to the Haven was placed, not knowing the extent of an inspection needed. One thing for sure, I wanted to be there when the inspector arrived. On a Monday night, several weeks later, I preached at Northwoods Baptist Camp. I considered spending the week but when a ride was offered home on Tuesday night, I felt it was the right timing. Yet as the youth asked me to stay, I felt torn. However, feeling very impressed to leave on Tuesday rather than stay, I went home. The two reasons I initially thought God wanted me to return home did not seem to be the reason. So as is customary on Wednesday, I decided to go for a long prayer walk. I had just passed the Lodge when a car pulled into the driveway. I

and given the green light for the hook up. The reason God had asked me to retain home was then obvious. We finally narrowed down the heater to use for the first apartment. I started looking on Facebook marketplace hoping to find a deal. I did. We found a new, but not used, heater at half the normal cost. Once again, blessed!



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**The Michael Williams Family**

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