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**IFMA**  
Member Mission

Harvey Holiday Highlights  
Noah's Second Birthday Edition  
February 25, 2003

## HARVEYS RETURN TO CONGO

After 14 months on home assignment, we left the United States of America to return to the Republic of Congo on August 22, 2002. About 22 friends and family (and a crew from Channel 2 News) came to Buffalo International Airport to see us off. Checking 22 suitcases and trunks of medical supplies took a long time. Even though we got to the ticket counter early, we were the last to duck into the Delta Connections turbo prop plane that would take us to Washington Dulles airport, where we would change planes for Paris and Brazzaville.

As the landing gear of our plane lifted off New York soil and we left our loved ones behind, tears began to flow. The stress of months of packing and saying goodbyes finally found release as we let our emotions fly. We were airborne, past the point of no return, on to our third term of service as medical missionaries to the Republic of Congo.

Realizing that two-thirds of our luggage had not made it onto our plane, Joseph spent most of our layover in Washington at the Delta Customer Service Center, trying to get the bags that had remained behind re-routed. Thankfully, all of our luggage did eventually make it to Paris and Brazzaville, but only after one week, and five trips to the Maya-Maya Airport. We are very grateful to the Delta Airlines personnel who graciously waved costly excess baggage fees and the Air France Agents who gave us generous compensation for the delay!

## BACK TO SCHOOL

When we left Buffalo, we were not traveling alone. Some of you may remember us asking you to pray for God to send us a teacher to help Rebecca teach at Harvey Christian Academy (our home school) in Impfondo. Well, God answers prayer. While we were on home assignment,

**Miss Andrea Schneider**, a certified teacher from Buffalo, New York, applied to serve with Global Outreach Mission in Congo.

We are so grateful that Miss Andrea was accepted, commissioned, and fully supported in time for her to travel with us when we returned to Congo in August. School is going famously well this year as a result. We covet your continued prayers for our students and teachers, especially with regard to their plans for next year.



Miss Andrea & students hard at work in Room 136

## MILE MARKERS

During our stateside assignment, not only did we have the chance to catch up with many of you, our friends and family, but we also had the opportunity to meet many new friends who are interested in the Pioneer Christian Hospital Project. A lot has happened since we left Congo in June 2001...

- Noah is walking and talking, and running!
- Olivia, Claire, & Isabelle successfully completed a full academic year at Genesee Country Christian School.
- Our personal odometers logged over 60,000 miles as we reported to over 25 churches & small groups.
- Global Outreach Mission accepted & approved The Pioneer Christian Hospital Project.
- Christian & Missionary Alliance (CMA) Churches in Connecticut established the “Connecticut-Congo Coalition” and began sending short-term mission teams to Congo.
- Dr. William Itoua (a friend of ours from Brazzaville) enrolled at Tulane University’s School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine.
- A team of CMA members traveled to Impfondo and completed architectural drawings of the Pioneer Camp.
- People like you gave enough money, equipment, and supplies for us to start transforming the Pioneer Camp (a former Communist youth camp) in Impfondo into a Christian Hospital.
- World Medical Mission, a division of Samaritan’s Purse, agreed to provide future medical equipment needs.
- 18 new missionary candidates (and their 12 children) have applied and been accepted by GOM for service in Republic of Congo.
- Missionary Nurse, **Sarah Speer**, continued to hold down the fort in Impfondo, ministering to the elderly and chronically ill patients.
- With a small army of volunteers, we packed & shipped a 40 ft shipping container to Congo with a Dodge Dakota Quad Cab pickup, five generators, mowers, 12 laptop computers, medical supplies and equipment, and a bunch of other donated stuff.



Loading the Container in Geneseo, NY, August 2002

## HEALTH CENTER DIRECTOR DIES

Our first morning back in Brazzaville, we were told that Mr. Jean Ntadi, the faithful Physician’s Assistant who Joseph had left in charge of the Evangelical Christian Church of Congo’s Health Center “l’Espérance” in Brazzaville, had mysteriously died in the night, just hours after we had touched down. Our hearts sank as we struggled to come to grips with this sad news. We were aware of major problems with the church’s management of the center, and had been looking forward to working with Mr. Ntadi to address them. Talk about jumping right back into things!



Jean Ntadi 1945-2002

When Joseph spoke at the funeral a few nights later, the cold reality of intense spiritual combat, which has characterized our experience since August 22, set in. We urgently need your prayers for a spiritual breakthrough, and that we’d win more of these battles. We dearly miss Mr. Ntadi, and still need a new director for the health center in Brazzaville. The ELIKIA Health Center in Impfondo has also had its struggles. Please be in prayer as we seek to divide our investments of time, energy, and resources between the church’s two existing outpatient health centers and the Pioneer Christian Hospital Project.

## KILOMETER MARKERS

Since our return to Congo, even though we sometimes go a week at a time without getting in a motor vehicle, we're still covering a lot of ground! We've endured numerous meetings in Brazzaville & Impfondo, addressing serious issues with health center staff, administrative boards, and church executive boards. Our relationship as a mission with the national church reached a historically unprecedeted all-time low the end of November 2002, but is now on the mend and moving in the right direction.

This fall, Joseph met several times with his Excellency, Dr. Alain Moka, Congo's Minister of Health, and other key government officials, to discuss the future of our church-run health centers and the establishment of Congo's Pioneer Christian Hospital.



**Minister of Health, Dr. Alain Moka, and Dr. Joseph Harvey sign an historic accord.**

On October 4, 2002, with US Ambassador to Republic of Congo serving as witness, Joseph signed an official agreement with the Government of the Republic of Congo, represented by Dr. Moka, authorizing Global Outreach Mission to start a Christian Hospital at the former Pioneer Camp in Impfondo, and granting Global certain rights and privileges as an officially recognized non-governmental organization.

## BACK TO WORK TEAMS

A lot of the groundwork has been laid. Literally. It has taken almost a year to level the ground with hoes, since most of the 18 acres on the hospital compound had been used to grow manioc (which is grown in large dirt mounds, making it impossible to mow with a tractor). John Gay has men in the trenches, preparing to lay new electrical cables to connect the buildings to the 55-kilowatt diesel generator, already in place. We are poised to make rapid improvements and renovations on the future hospital compound, as soon as more supplies and reinforcements arrive. **There are still plenty of opportunities for short-term teams of volunteer construction workers to come and help us get this job done.** If you are interested, don't hesitate to contact us directly to start making plans. Space is limited, and travel here is difficult, so arrivals and departures need to be coordinated directly with us on the field.

## CONNECTICUT-CONGO COALITION

Just 10 days after the signing ceremony, Joseph returned to Brazzaville to welcome our first work team. The five laymen and one pastor from CMA churches in Connecticut accomplished more than we hoped or planned in the two weeks they were with us, including...

- **Towing** our 1992 Chevrolet Astro Van, stolen during the war in 1997, from where it had been sitting up to its axles in sand for several years, to a secure compound.
- **Helping** Joseph get our 40 foot shipping container cleared through customs at the Autonomous Port of Pointe Noire.



Our chartered cargo plane arrives in Impfondo

- **Moving** the contents of the container into a truck, to a Bible school classroom, to another truck, to the tarmac at the airport in Pointe Noire, to a chartered Russian Cargo plane, to the tarmac in Impfondo, to trucks & a tractor, to storage at the mission & hospital site in Impfondo. Whew!
- **Rewiring** five buildings at the hospital site.
- **Holding** the first-ever evangelistic meeting in the hospital's newly lighted amphitheatre, and impromptu praise and worship meetings around town.
- **Ministering** to refugees from war-torn Central African Republic.



Unloading the plane in Impfondo, October 2002



Praying with a refugee from Central African Republic

### \*\*\* FUEL SHORTAGES & EXPLOSIONS \*\*\*

In the beginning of December 2002, we traveled to Brazzaville with Sarah & Andrea for a week of R&R. We also went to welcome new team members, **John & Betty Gay**, who have arrived from Churchville, New York, to direct the hospital reconstruction effort. We were planning to be in Brazzaville one week, but ended up staying until after Christmas, because all air & ground traffic was brought to a standstill when the capital's fuel supply couldn't keep up with the demand during the busy holiday season.

Several days after we finally returned to Impfondo, a large pressure cooker full of fish soup exploded in our kitchen. Thank God, no one was injured. The ceiling was damaged by the impact of the lid. We did go hungry for a few hours while an alternative meal was prepared. And the kitchen smelled like fish well into the New Year!

On January 3, 2003, a tire exploded while I was trying to get the bead to seat. The resulting injuries:

comminuted, displaced, open fracture of the left ulna, fractured upper left incisor, and concussion; required medical evacuation to the coastal city of Pointe Noire, where I had a root canal & underwent surgery under general anesthesia to put a titanium plate with five screws in my arm. I'm doing OK now, but my nurse (Becky) has me on restricted duty until my post-op checkup, scheduled for March 3.

A young man named Adam Mayenga injured his eyes in the same accident. He still needs prayer for complete (physical & spiritual) healing.

by Joe Harvey



The New Look: Toothless & Shattered



The Burrows Family in Congo

### IMPFONDO: FREQUENT FLYER AWARD DESTINATION?

As God would have it, **Dr. Craig & Brenda Burrows**, friends from our Houghton College days, their 4 children, and Brenda's father, Paul Barron, flew into town a couple of hours after Joseph's accident. Craig, who is a family practice doctor, was able to stabilize Joe's arm, prepare him for evacuation, and cover Joe's patients during most of his convalescence.

Our missionary colleagues, **Paul & Diane, Josie & Hap Ohlin**, who work with pygmies in Republic of Congo, Cameroon, & the Central African Republic, flew into Impfondo for a 3-week visit over Christmas and the New Year. Because of the fuel shortage and Joseph's accident, we ended up missing much of their visit, but the few times of fellowship and catching up were truly a blessing. Paul served as a faithful go-between, helping us clear up lingering issues troubling the church and mission leadership.



Rob Eisbrenner  
Monkeying Around

**Mr. Rob Eisbrenner**, a handyman, mechanic, and welder, from Winnipeg, Manitoba, has arrived for a 6-week assignment, and we very much appreciate his help. In addition to helping John Gay prepare the water & electric systems at the hospital site, and welding a ladder rack for our Land Rover, he's gotten several motorbikes to run like new that had been sitting around unusable for years! He is planning to come to Congo again sometime soon. Please pray for him and his family.

Jay van Achterberg, one of the members of the work team from Connecticut, has just returned to Congo as a full-time missionary, along with his wife, Crystal, and their five young children! **The van Achterbergs** are a welcome addition to our team. We covet your prayers as they dedicate their first few months in Congo to language & cultural learning, in order to better prepare for a 1-2 year term of ministry.

In addition to GOM missionaries, we've had frequent visits from other guests. All these comings and goings have us overwhelmed, and struggling to keep our house together. **SARAN'S** (housemates, Sarah & Andrea's fast food delivery service) has often saved the day. We are slowly learning to lead the team God is bringing together to help start Congo's Pioneer Christian Hospital. We appreciate your prayers for strength and wisdom, and growth together as a family.



Team Congo at GOM's Annual Conference-June 2002

# HELP STILL NEEDED

Though our immediate need is for short-term volunteers to help with the reconstruction process, we are also aware of the urgent need for the following:

- A surgeon and another primary care physician to work with us full-time in Impfondo, so we can start providing hospital services.
- Missionary nurses to help staff the hospital & start the nursing school.
- Five thousand people to commit to praying for Congo's Pioneer Christian Hospital on a regular basis.
- Approximately \$750,000 in project funds.

Would you help us recruit partners for our prayer team? Would you consider a special gift or new faith promise for the Pioneer Christian Hospital Project? Would you be willing to come over & help us?



Noah & Papa Jones on "their" day – February 25, 2002

### PAPA by Olivia Harvey, Age 11

My Grandpa Delbert Jones has played an important role in my life. Because I live in Africa part of the time, I don't get to spend a lot of time with my Grandpa. So when I do, we have a lot of fun. He takes me out to dinner. My Grandpa is a funny person and makes a lot of jokes. He is also an artist and draws pictures for me. Once he drew a picture of a duck. The duck was dressed as a cowboy, and was saying "don't draw on me-I'm unarmed." He makes a lot of other jokes too, and makes me laugh.

My Papa was in the Marines so that makes him a great storyteller. One of my favorites is when he was in the Marines. They had to line up for inspection and couldn't even move if they had an itch. Of course when Grandpa tells it, it is much more interesting.

My Grandfather also has a radio show called "Echoes from Calvary" on Sunday at 8:30AM on WCJW 1140AM and sometimes I sing on his show and read some of the script. My Grandpa has also taught me a lot about the ways things work. Once he was explaining how the video camera worked. After a while he asked, "Do you get it?" and I answered "no."

I would not like to lose him or our relationship. That's why I love my Grandfather.

*Noah Allen & Delbert Allen share the same birthday. This year they will be 2 and 71 respectively.*

*"The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage." Psalm 16:6*

*Dad & Mom Jones will be celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on March 2, 2003.*

*congratulations*



DEL & WANETA JONES

One  
Golden  
Couple!

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We would like to take this opportunity (our first regular newsletter in 2 years) to thank you for your prayers and financial support. If you have e-mail, and would like more frequent updates of this ministry, please sign up for our bi-weekly Harvey PrayerNet, by contacting: [REWilson@usa.net](mailto:REWilson@usa.net).

We thank you, and we thank God, for giving us this incredible opportunity to serve Him in Congo!

For Health & Hope,

*Joseph & Rebecca Harvey  
Olivia, Claire, Isabelle, & Noah*

Serving with Global Outreach Mission  
In Impfondo, Republic of Congo, Brazzaville, Africa  
Dedicated to the establishment of Congo's Pioneer Christian Hospital

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Feel free to contact **Global Outreach Mission** if you would like any of the following:

- Prayer Cards for The Harveys, Marlaine Harvey, The Marshes, Andrea Schneider, Sarah Speer, The Van Achterbergs, Petersons, and other members of the Global Outreach Mission Team Congo.
- Global Outreach Mission Prayer Diaries (with pictures of all GOM missionaries)
- “The Pioneer Christian Hospital Project” descriptive brochure
- “The Pioneer Christian Hospital Project” full-color brochure
- “Let your Light so Shine”—the Harvey Family’s 1997 Music Video
- On Call -- an exciting book by Dr. David Thompson, founder of Bongolo Evangelical Hospital in Gabon (where we served in 1998-99)
- “The Gates of Hell Shall Not Prevail” computer CD with Microsoft PowerPoint® presentation on the recent history behind the development of the Pioneer Christian Hospital Project, and hundreds of photos of Global Outreach Mission’s work in Congo.
- Congo Visitor’s Information Packet.
- Applications for short or long-term service.
- To schedule a missionary speaker from GOM’s Team Congo to speak at your church or civic group.