



TOGETHER IN CHRIST, PRAYER & GLOBAL MISSION Tom & Eunice Olson Newsletter December 2023 232 Clifton Avenue Minneapolis, MN 55403-3466 wmpl@wmpl.org 612.871.6843 wmpl.org 4837 52A St Camrose, AB T4V 1W5 canada@wmpl.org 780.672.0464 wmpl.org

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:10-11)

It is with great joy that we announce to you that after much prayerful discussion with WMPL and the church in Congo we have accepted the call to return to Congo for another six months of service. We will continue carrying the message of God's love and faithfulness through Jesus Christ.



Left: We will continue our role of player-coaches and cheerleaders as we encourage the Congolese church and its members to mobilize local resources.

Pray:

- That people would come to realize that churches that depend on God are self-supporting, self-governing, and self-propagating because they are not self-reliant but God-reliant.
- That our Congolese Christian brothers and sisters and the indigenous church leadership would catch the Vision of trusting and depending on God in all things.



Pray:

• That as we continue to promote sustainable agriculture people would see the many blessings and material wealth with which God has blessed them, and that they would be good stewards of these resources as they work to advance God's Kingdom both locally and globally.





Eunice will continue encouraging cottage industries such as making donuts, baking, and making soap. She will also encourage women and girls by teaching sewing.

Tom will continue preaching and teaching at the seminary and surrounding congregations in the regions of Tshela and Boma and extended areas.

We are most happy to report that the house that we rent has had major improvements done while we have been gone. The most significant is that the wall surrounding our entire concesssion has been completed including a locking gate. This gives us greater security and peace of mind. Our rent will increase as we have decided to rent the entire concession which enables us to have more room for holding various short-courses and classes for women and children.

The Regional Director for Africa strongly recommends we have a vehicle to meet our security and work needs. This is supported by the Personnel Director and the Executive Director of WMPL. Our last six-month tour of duty was without a form of transportation. We depended on public transport and the goodwill of local church members. For security reasons it is better that we have our own mission vehicle. We have found a 2008 Toyota Land Cruiser that can be purchased and shipped by the beginning of January. We are praying that God provides the financial and logistical means necessary to buy this vehicle and get it to Atlanta, Ga, where it can be put in a container for Congo the first part of January. A friend from Atonement Lutheran in Fargo and I traveled to Le Crescent, MN and found the vehicle in good condition, low milage and reasonably priced. Please join us in prayer that God would provide all that is needed to procure this vehicle. We are thankful that two men from the Men's Morning Bible study are willing to drive the vehicle to Atlanta once it is purchased.

Eunice and I are excited to spend Christmas with our daughter Laure who is a 2^{nd} Lieutenant in the US Army, serving in Seoul, Korea. We are planning to fly to Seoul



and be with her from December 18-28. We ask you to pray for travel mercies for this trip, not only for us but for all people visiting loved ones during the Christmas season.

Please continue to pray for all the global workers serving throughout WMPL. Many are serving under harsh and dangerous conditions. Keep them and their families in your prayers. We have the greatest Good News of God's unconditional love in Christ Jesus to share with everyone in this fallen, suffering, and chaotic world.

Remember the good news announced in Isaiah that came into being in Jesus, "For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas. Maranatha - Come, Lord Jesus, Come! Tom & Eunice