



Dunn's Do'ins Congo MPH Mission



NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS

Well, we made it safely to the beginning of a new year. We thank each of you for your prayers and intercession during the potentially troubled time in December. We received many messages of encouragement, which let us know that we were not isolated and alone.

You may remember from our last newsletter in December 2016, there was quite a bit of anxiety here in Congo regarding the elections which did not happen in November. Many missions and organizations sent their personnel out of the country for early holidays. We prepared for chaos and unrest and hunkered down behind the safety of our walls. Though all of the preparations and concerns were prudent, as it turned out they were mostly unnecessary. There were some incidents in parts of Kinshasa where people gathered to demonstrate and were forcibly dispersed, resulting in some deaths, though none of this was in our neighborhood. There were also incidents in other parts of Congo, sadly.

In December, we pretty much stayed on lock down within our property. We would check in with the other colleagues who stayed in their own neighborhoods to see what was happening throughout Kinshasa. We would check any news sources available to us and inquire of our sentries to see if there was anything we needed to know. We felt that, through our connections with others, we were quite well informed of what was going on. Our friend Linda, who was petsitting at a house on the street behind MPH, would come over late afternoons and we would make dinner together, then we would spend the evenings watching Christmas movies in our conference room. Throughout the holidays, Clay became quite skilled in Wii Golf, lowering his "virtual handicap" significantly. On Christmas Eve, we hosted a small "Candlelight" Service in our conference room. Then, Christmas Day, we hosted our 7th Annual Dunn Christmas potluck with about 35 attendees, lots of food, photo booth, white elephant gift exchange and much fun.

We wish all of you a very prosperous New Year filled with many blessings, good health, and an increasing relationship with your Savior.

To support our mission, send funds to:

Appointment Congo
PO Box 98764
Raleigh, NC 27624

Make checks payable to:

Appointment Congo

Designate for:

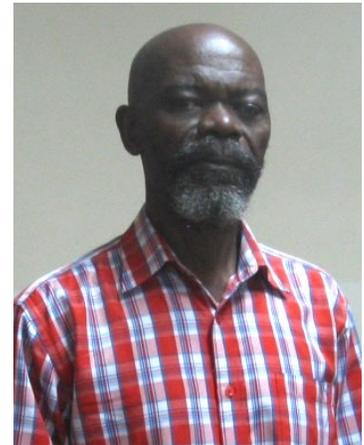
Dunn-MPH Guesthouse

or give online at:

appointmentcongo.org

In Memoriam

A few days after our return from furlough in October, we lost one of our much valued co-workers. **Baba Samuel** died of a heart attack at the age of 65 on his way to work. We had not seen Baba since we left for furlough in June. Baba worked beside Clay daily as a carpenter and general “handyman”. He was very interactive with the guests, practicing his English and aiding in French. He was the most ethical and reliable worker, always seeking to do his best. It was very common to find Baba before working hours reading his bible in search of a more productive relationship with God. We attended his funeral, being two of the three white people of the 600+ turnout. It was quite a moving experience, but very encouraging to see how much Baba was loved and respected by his co-workers, family and church. Baba is, and will be, missed much.



Will 2017 Gain Strength?

The last half of 2016 was not a very profitable one for MPH Guesthouse. With problems obtaining visas to Congo beginning midyear, the fears of the elections and its aftermath, not many people were flocking to DR Congo. Unfortunately, expenses do not cease just because income is not coming in. So, for the first time since we arrived in 2010, MPH is having to dip into its savings.

2017 is starting slow. We don't have many guests staying here in January. February is a bit busier. But we need to have more guests to continue to operate without external funding. We ask that you continue to pray for Congo to stabilize, and that teams will, once again, feel safe enough to come to do their ministries in this country. We enjoy seeing the teams that come and listening to how their ministries are furthering the development of the country, improving the health of the people, and increasing the future habitants of God's kingdom.

During the slow season, Clay, and his team, are catching up on maintenance needs, cleaning, and repainting where needed. We are waiting for kitchen supplies to arrive, so the kitchen renovation can begin. Cindy is fine tuning the menu to weed out flops and improve meals that just need a tweak.

We hope to see some of you in 2017!

Contact Us:
Clay and Cindy Dunn
clayandcindycongo@gmail.com
clayandcindy.weebly.com
mphguesthouse.org