

AIMM Praise and Prayer September-October 2015

DR Congo



L to R: Joseph Nkonglo, Dominique Yona, Bercie Mundedi, Gustave Batubenge

Pray for the **92 individuals and groups** that received loans in May 2015 from the fledgling micro loans project of the Mennonite Church of Congo in the Tshikapa area. Pray that these loans would serve to help each of these persons and groups to advance economically and spiritually. Pray for **Joseph Nkongolo**, chair of the loans committee, and for committee members **Dominique Yona, Bercie Mundedi** and **Gustave Batubenge** as they provide follow-up support for loan recipients and advocate for timely repayment.

Pray that the **first coaches** working with the Congo Leadership Support Network would be successfully trained. Pray also for **Charles Buller** and others working toward the first regional coaching seminars for leaders in Mennonite Church of Congo.



Congo Leadership Support Network

Pray for the **Evangelical Mennonite Church of Congo** as it continues to work to heal divisions. Praise God for the formation of a **Transition Committee** which includes leaders from both sides of the conflict. Pray that this committee would move the church toward a lasting reconciliation. Pray for successful meetings of the entire church, planned for November 2015. Pray that the entire church would agree on a common constitution to guide church life and decision making.

Pray for healing in relationships between the **Mennonite Brethren Church of Congo**, and their traditional North American partner, MB Mission. Pray for **Pastor Gerard Mambakila**, President, and for his national executive committee colleagues **Serge Tembe** and **Gaston Kandji**, as together they lead this Congolese church.



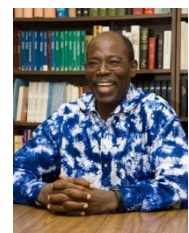
Pastor Serge Tembe, Pastor Gerard Mambakila, and Gaston Kandji



Pray for the **well over 100 Congolese Mennonites** who experienced deep disappointment when they were unable to obtain visas to attend Mennonite World Conference this summer. Many invested large sums of money and time in what was ultimately an unsuccessful bid to participate in the world church as it gathered. Pray for consolation and renewed blessing for each one.

Burkina Faso

Praise God that church **President Siaka Traoré** has recently been named Chair of the **Mennonite World Conference Deacons Commission**. Pray for wisdom and guidance for Siaka and for the committee as they seek together to bring hope and consolation to believers in difficult circumstances.





Emmanuel & Awa

Pray for the local congregation in the village of **Sidi**, which is holding firm in their faith in Christ, despite strong opposition. Praise the Lord for newly arrived **Pastor Emmanuel Coulibaly and his wife Awa**, serving Sidi from a nearby village. Pray that believers in Sidi would continue to act lovingly towards their neighbors.

Pray for **Yaya and Medina Bengaly**, and for **Abel and Alima Traoré**.

These two couples enrolled in the 3 year “Basic Bible Training” course taught by senior leaders of the **Evangelical Mennonite Church of Burkina Faso**. From January to May 2015 they followed studies at the **Training Center in Orodara**. As of June through December, they have been assigned church duties in a local congregation. Pray that they would be encouraged as they practice what they have learned.



L to R: Madina Bengaly, Yaya Bengaly, Alima Traore, Abel Traore

South Africa



Pray for **Mzwandile Nkutha**, a participant on the steering committee of the Anabaptist Network in South Africa, and for his wife **Lydia** and daughter **Uluthando** as Mzi engages in study and builds relationships at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, IN. Pray that these last months of study would be enriching and would strengthen Mzi’s vision for his future work.

Pray for **Lawrence Coetzee** as he leads **Grace Community Churches**, a **Mennonite World Conference** member church. Pray that a missionary individual or family would be found who senses a call to relate closely to this church and to nurture them into deeper relationship with other Anabaptists.



Pray for **Mennonite Mission Network and AIMM** in seeking funding for a couple who are willing to give several years of service in **South Africa**, working at reconciliation and justice issues through local partner organizations.



Botswana

Pray for **Taryn and Nathan Dirks** (Mennonite Church Canada), who have returned to Gaborone with a newborn boy, **Malakai**, born on May 30. Pray as they adjust both to Botswana and to their new family member.



AIMM Office



Rod, Lola, Lorilee, Charles

Pray for wisdom for **AIMM staff members** as we work to find the best ways to nurture new relationships between North American believers and our African partner churches.

Pray for **Office Manager Lola Gingerich** as she works to update our database by calling households from whom we’ve not heard for some time. Pray for good conversations and for clear direction as to whether or not people wish to remain connected to the AIMM family.