



**Rwanda July 2010 Newsletter by Jacob, E-mail:**  
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### Dear Encouragers,

We praise the Lord for guidance and protection during all our time in July 2010. He was with us everywhere and in everything, and as we work, we continue to experience His companionship. The Lord is really good!!

We continually appreciate each one of you for commitment to pray for us and for every effort you provide for the expansion of God's Kingdom in our region." *God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them". Hebrews 6:10 NIV*

## Activities of the month

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### I. Literacy program with Akagera local churches

In our Newsletter of June 2010, we mentioned a project of a Literacy program in Akagera local churches due to a big number of illiterate people in the community. We had to contact the Pastor of the Pentecostal churches of Rwanda who is in charge of that program to advise and help the community pastors to start with the program.

After the contact with the Regional church leader of the Rwanda associations of Pentecostal churches from Kibungo region was made, we did travel to Akagera with him to meet with pastors of the community to plan how they will start and manage 4 centers of the program in the community. Our expectation was to just have text books for teachers and look for volunteer teachers in the community to launch the teaching activities. But after the meeting with the Pastor who is better experienced, we came to realize that there is need of training teachers before and that the number of teachers should exceed classes to be sure the work will be done without interruption. To implement the program, local churches have to provide with financial support for a-five day training of teachers, help students to have their text books. The cost of that work will not be less than \$ 5,000 if the number of registered students remains of 200



people. Please pray for that provision. The program is so important for the local churches but the cost is higher than their capacity. However, they are working to start with the step of training teachers from August 16<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

## **II. Uvira/South Kivu-DR Congo Vision conference**

### **1. Background to the Vision conference**

A previous Vision conference for Uvira's pastors was held in August 11-14, 2009. We had a chance to meet with some pastors who attended the 2009 conference and heard stories of impact after the conference. Their stories were different from what we use to hear from attendees. Normally pastors speak about changes that had taken place within their local churches or communities due to the training, but in Uvira we heard also stories about impact within families. To mention just few, let me talk about 2 pastors: 1. Rev. Mathias Sibomana from the Free Methodist Church had decided to work in a new way to improve the conditions of the family in the physical area. He cultivated a big land and got a very important harvest of corn. They got enough for eating and sold some to buy a cow as savings. 2. As for Rev. Watuna, the chairman of the Vision Conference committee, he reported on disciplines of love done by his family.

### **July 19-22 Vision Conference**

Two previous Vision conferences were led by a local NGO in collaboration with local pastors, but the conference we held recently was led by local churches. That shift was sign of acceptance of the wholistic training in the area. 52 pastors and church leaders from 16 different backgrounds attended the Conference.

As usual, we were so pleased to see how they liked the materials and how they responded to the teaching. They were eager to learn and so quick to find negative impacts from their background education from churches. Most of churches are from a VERY RADICAL PENTECOSTAL Church from the Scandinavia.



Uvira town and its surrounding communities have been affected by civil wars due to tribalism from 1964 despite a very big number of Christians that live in that area and a spiritual revival that was well known there. Their big challenge during our conference was to know what the role of the Church in the region is if people can't reconcile with one

another for social transformation. ***“We strongly believe the Wholistic message and the application of biblical principles will help to transform communities of the region”*** said one of the participants. Pray for God's people to humble themselves, pray, seek the face of the Lord and turn from their wicked ways for the Lord to heal their land.

Seed projects were planned as church's initiatives to transform their communities. Please pray for achievements. I hope to participate to one of them that aims to visit people who were affected by the Fuel tank track accident in Sange at 30 kilometers from the venue of the Vision conference. See the tragedy of Sange on Google.

### **III. Vision Casting conference in Gatonde (in the Northern province of Rwanda)**

The Vision casting conference in Gatonde was led by Dominic Rwampfizi one of our companions for the Ministry. He was invited by the Pastor for a short event training to talk to 35 people from a corporation of farmers growing pineapples and to his church. He had time to speak to 100 people of the church in the afternoons for 3 days except Sunday that he got time in the morning and the afternoon. His teaching consisted mainly of Biblical worldview because the area he was in is very known for witchcraft. Not only people accepted to change in their way of working during the conference, but also 5 people received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

### **IV. Mentorship**

Please pray for mentorship program. As we look to see practitioners, we also badly need to have more people to practice teaching. We have a plan to have more trainers before December 2010.