



## April 2011 Newsletter for Rwanda by Jacob

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**Dear Brethren,**

***"...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)***

This newsletter is an expression of our gratitude to what the Lord has done through our ministry in the Region. We are also grateful for your continuous support for the ministry. May God bless you.

From the beginning of April through the end of the month in Rwanda, it is a hard time due to the memory of the genocide events perpetrated against Tutsi in April 1994. The climate is not very appropriate for training meetings because people are busy with burying bodies of the victims that they find in different sites or organize meetings on reconciliation or again make arrangements to collect and bring support to genocide survived families. During this month of April the Lord has helped me to participate in teams of the Good Shepherd Community Church that collected support to give to families that survived from the genocide, to do Training of Trainers in the Northern Province of Rwanda and to visit the churches in Bukavu in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



### **1. Visiting a family that survived from the 1994 genocide**

On the picture-on left, the team from Good Shepherd Church visited here a family of 4 people: a mother and her two daughters and one son.

It's a real joy for the families that survived from the genocide events to see people joining them during the commemoration events. God was praised with all kinds of expressions. Members of the Church who participated in the events were also encouraged by their attitude of gratitude

### **2. Training of Trainers in Musanze (Northern Province of Rwanda) –picture at right**

Dominic Rwampfizi, my companion in the ministry is summarizing the content of Harvest materials to a team of 10 trainees from 3 different regions of Rwanda. After they are trained, they will serve as trainers within their respective local churches, but also will help to be Harvest



representatives within the Forums of churches in their respective regions.

### 3. Visit of Follow up in Bukavu/Democratic Republic of Congo

We had held two vision conferences in Bukavu: in 2008 and 2009. Our visit had three objectives: fellowship with our key contacts persons in Bukavu, organize a meeting with pastors and monitoring their progress in implementing the wholistic principles in their communities.

In addition to three mentioned activities in Bukavu, I got an opportunity to visit a family of the late Pastor London Naburhere who went to live with the Lord in January 2011. He was one of our key contact people in Bukavu.

**Fellowship (shared our lunch) with 2 key contact people in Bukavu: Rev.**

**Desire Kabangira and Rev. Mike Cikuru Birindwa and Comforting Njabuka London; the wife of the late Rev. London Naburhere**



#### Meeting with Pastors in Bukavu/DRC

In the meeting of follow up with 18 pastors from 8 denominations, I felt inspired to talk once more on the role of the



Church in Society basing my speech on Ephesus 4: 11-13. My concern was mainly that most of pastors do not know their role in the Church beyond preaching the Gospel for salvation. I reminded them what we had taught during the Vision Conference about the job description of all the five ministries (Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor and teacher): to prepare God's people for works of service.

The city of Bukavu is a very old city in DRC with a very high majority of Christian churches. But the situation of the city doesn't match with the statistics of Christians. There is still much to do for the Church to understand her role for the transformation of communities.

#### Sunday Morning services in Bukavu

On Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup>, I got an opportunity to preach twice in two services of the Church of the Holy Spirit. I reminded the Congregation what it means **to have a different spirit** during a time like this one using the example of Caleb in Numbers 14: 24.

#### Praise and Prayer request

Praise the Lord for guidance and protection, for giving us such wonderful times with his servants. Pray for my trip to Goma/DRC by next week. Pray for wisdom and discernment as we meet God's people.