

Copied below is my translation of recent entries to the blog of Nathan Weteto in Mbandaka. To view the photos interspersed with the text go to: [www.natana.tumblr.com](http://www.natana.tumblr.com)

#### Community Fund – Testimony

Madame Likomba is the wife of the head Pastor of the Parish New - City in Mbandaka. She graduated in nursing and works as a nurse at the University Clinic of Mbandaka.

But constantly, and despite the fact that both wife and husband use their monthly salaries to support the family, there were still problems to get food every day and send children to school.

But since becoming a member of the community fund of pastors' wives, Mrs. Likomba tells us that she began to sell cold water. She recovered an old kerosene refrigerator and as the city of Mbandaka is very hot and people drink plenty of water she buys treated water, cools it and sells it in the neighborhood.

Currently, she manages to feed the family without any problems and even to support the education of their four children: one in the first year of Medicine, one in the 2nd year Polytechnique, one in the second year of Business, and the last in the first Graduate in Economics.

For this cycle, Madame Likomba plans to buy a small electrical generator of 3,500 Watts and also to sell lemonade.

#### A Robe for Mrs. Entombodji

The restaurant Mrs. Entombodji, named for the Servant of the Lord who has served for years as Head of the Department of Women of the Disciples of Christ has finally put on her robe.

(Photo of restaurant dining room)

Recall that during the visit of the U.S. delegation composed of women, the painting was begun. Now it's finished, the paint is fully applied and the dining room of the restaurant shines.

The big job now remains, as was well said by Rev. Fidon Mwombeki, think of the maintenance and upkeep.

#### World Day of Peace

Peace has a special meaning for the Congolese emerging from a long period of war and experiencing daily problems related to peace.

The residents of Mbandaka still remember the sad events of Easter 2010, when, right during the worship service, they were forced to flee from the church building in a rush to protect themselves because of the Enyele rebel insurgency.

(photo: Circle of prayer)

That's why, this year, the prayer for peace organized by the Department of Evangelism, Church Life and Mission has seen a considerable participation. More than 600 people, pastors, intercessors and others came to pray for peace that the Lord Jesus Christ left us as a reality.

(photo: Women in front of the pulpit)

The worship service was led by the group Adoration of the 10th Parish and daughters of soldiers from Camp Ngashi. They allowed intercessors to think of all those who do not have peace in the DRC, Libya, Syria in the Middle - East and so on.

Obituary

(photo of woman)

Mrs. Eyenga Marie - Louise Bofosa Longomo passed away on the evening of Thursday 1 September 2011 following a diabetes crisis that sent her into a coma, a coma that lasted only a few hours. Graduated in Business Administration at the Institute of Rural Development of Mbandaka, Madame Bofosa Longomo working on the Community coordination of Protestant subsidized Schools for the Community of Disciples of Christ in Congo as financial agent. She leaves a widower and six children.

Thank the Lord!

(photo of baby)

The community of the General Secretariat of the ECC / 10-CDCC has been enriched by the birth, in the family of our General Accountant, Mrs. Helen Mpumbu, of a beautiful little boy whose parents gave the name of little Nathan.

A Structure of Community Funds

(photo: Group meeting)

Nearly 1,000 women are now involved in the micro credit program through more than 30 community funds. Many of them have seen their lives improve even if ever so slightly. Many testify that they can feed their families and educate their children better than before they joined a community group fund. Faced with this enthusiasm, the Department of Women and the Family of the Community of Disciples of Christ in Congo, in an effort to organize this activity that has become so important, has created an association of Women for Mutual Savings and Credit. This structure will be responsible for training women before opening a community fund.

Initially, the Reverend Christian Ikete Engetele, Head of the Department of Women and Family thinks it is necessary to train ten trainers who will be responsible for supervising 5-10 groups each. This structure, we are sure will launch a real send off for women and their families for their well - being and development.

The meeting this Tuesday, September 13, 2011 with Community President and Vice - President is the actual launch of the mutual.

Go, Women!

(photo of women greeted by dancers)

The Delegation of Global Ministries led by Reverend Sandra Gourdet returned this Wednesday, September 7 to Kinshasa, en route to the United States.

Composed entirely of women and come to share experiences with their Congolese sisters, the delegation arrived in Mbandaka Saturday, September 3, 2011. A welcome at great enthusiasm was reserved for them at the airport in Mbandaka with cheerleaders and a few women from the surrounding parishes, Air - Congo, and Ikongowasa Besenge.

(photo: crowd of women outside church)

At Mbandaka III, a crowd of women waiting outside the church, they took a hot walkabout before entering the building where the entertainment was at its height.

Note that the flight they had taken had a delay of seven hours, but that did not result in a change in the program.

As expected, they moved into the mission house, guest house of the CDCC and after a meal at the residence of the Community President, they visited the restaurant Mrs. Entombodji. There, they visited the facilities before doing some painting, with their Congolese sisters. It was certainly a hard and tiring day, but certainly the enthusiasm of the welcome has erased all the weariness of the day.

(photo: painting)

On Sunday morning, the delegation was divided into four groups for Sunday worship. The parishes of Bongondjo, Mbandaka III, Besenge, and Inkongowasa had the privilege of welcoming the delegation of four ministers who preached in the various parishes and each was accompanied by two other members of the delegation.

(photo: Woman pastor in the pulpit)

At Besenge for example, where the Reverend Sandra Gourdet preached, the parishioners were reminded that they should be the salt of the earth - that leave the camp appearances to really live the Christian life, for those who see them to give evidence they are truly Christians. In other parishes, the atmosphere was festive. American and Congolese women competed in feats of dance.

In the afternoon, women and some men were still in the parish of Mbandaka III for the campaign of evangelization. Here Berth and Lisa shared their experiences with their sisters on the role of women in society.

Disregard of the time schedule was not the only handicap in the program since Monday, a tropical rain prevented the delegation in the morning from starting the program as planned. Nevertheless, the delegates visited the offices of the General Secretariat and in the afternoon, they continued the evangelistic crusade, this time of intercessory prayer for all people who had problems in their lives.

(photo: Women outdoors)

Tuesday was another long and full day with the visit to the church Post of Bolenge, the first mission station of the Disciples in DR Congo. The delegates, who had borrowed a boat, landed at Bolenge in front

of a crowd of women who were waiting by the river, singing and dancing. The procession headed for the graveyard of missionaries and the delegates visited the Bolenge evangelical hospital which is now in the process of rebuilding after the destruction by fire. This hospital is currently at the stage of the construction of the maternity pavilion after construction of the Pediatric pavilion with funding from the Lerner family. Then, the delegation took the boat for Ikengo, the Agro - pastoral project of the CDCC, where the breeding of pigs, laying hens and cassava and vegetables takes place.

Although the program included the activities of the afternoon to begin at 1:30, the delegation only returned to Mbandaka about 4:00. Despite this delay, women who manage the community funds in the program of micro - credit had not lost patience and waited until their sisters returned. With this group of women sharing was very rich but time worked against their expectations. However the number of women involved in the program impressed the delegates. Immediately after the explanation by women of the community funds, young women shared the word of God with their sisters while, to save time, the Reverend Sandra and Christy talked with people living with HIV who also have their group's Community fund.

Finally, on Wednesday morning, with the pain of separation in their hearts, the American and Congolese sisters were separated at the airport in Mbandaka.

The experience the American and Congolese women shared shows how the status of women has evolved, both in the United States and in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Women, very active members of society, have long been offended by men. Unfortunately this giant step does not seem to have an echo in politics because, here as candidates for the parliament and the Office of the President, the women Disciples of Congo did not dare. It can be a problem of money,

Statement

Dear readers:

We apologize for the lack of information for several days. Our server had problems and we were cut off from you by email, Skype or other electronic means. The server is restored and we will resume our news with retros.