



International Christian Ministries



Newsletter

FALL 2008

Burundi Surprise

Presidential protocol men ushered the U.S. delegation quickly through the airport. Once in His Excellency's cars, the group began the process of meeting with cabinet members and even the president himself. "We're used to flying under the radar," commented ICM cofounder Dr. Myron Goodman, "but with the president giving us twenty-two prime acres to expand our ministry—and national attention on the dedication service—things have changed." Exposure seems to be the trend in the recent ICM expansion and ministry to high level leadership. Discipling leaders at all levels is a core value of ICM. And recently God has been opening new levels of influence as ICM trains Africa's leaders in government, business, education, and the church.

PRESIDENTIAL PRAYER

Praying over President Pierre was an incredible honor for the delegation. "This was an amazing honor to pray for the leader of this recovering nation," stated Dr. Walker, "I have great confidence that this man of integrity will give godly leadership to Burundi."

"This was an amazing honor to pray for the leader of this recovering nation."

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

ICM Burundi Director Painito Ambuka knows the sacrifice of Christian service. Leaving his home in Kenya was a call Painito and wife Rose were willing to accept. Giving personally to the work in



Burundi President Pierre receives prayer from Dr. Phil Walker during a recent trip to Africa.

Burundi was a lifestyle that afforded only public transit. After the delegation had left Burundi, Painito stayed behind to

take care of the loose ends. Catching a later bus to Kenya seemed routine not knowing the tragedy awaiting. The bus carrying Painito rolled and many people lost their lives. Only through the protection of God, Painito survived with just the loss of his left arm. Please continue to pray for Painito and Rose as many months of recovery and rehabilitation are ahead. Pray also as the ministry of ICM Burundi continues without the main director. 🙏

IN THIS ISSUE

USED BOOKS

Seminaries given new library.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES

Medical missions for ICM in Nigeria.

MT. ELGON TRAINING CENTER

Fighters in Kenya spare ICM center.

WORTHY OF SUPPORT

Efficiency yields heart transformations.

Worthy of Support

Warren Buffett is a pretty smart guy, and he once said, "A simple rule dictates my buying: be fearful when others are greedy, and be greedy when others are fearful."

ICM's work is heart transformation. Our method is formal and non-formal discipleship training. Our goal is excellence, effectiveness and efficiency. Godly excellence can be defined as doing God's work in God's way without wasting God's resources. Our effectiveness is measured by the number of hearts transformed to love God more and serve Him unconditionally. And efficiency is about being more productive for the same amount of resources.

Efficiency for ICM is measured by the percentage of our budget being spent on administration. In 2004 our overhead was pegged at 13.9 percent. By 2006 it was 10.9 percent. Our goal is to get it under 10 percent. Lean but healthy, streamlined but ready, is the target. The current economic cloud over the US is not a motivation for us, it is a confirmation. We are not cutting back, we are increasing productivity.

Rev. Painito Ambuka, a graduate of Africa Theological Seminary, has been called to be a missionary from Kenya to Burundi. It has cost him much. It cost him a



Rev. Painito Ambuka and his wife Rose gave up much to follow God's call to missions in Kenya.

secure future in his denomination. He and his wife Rose have had to leave family and friends to go to a new country. On a recent long journey from Burundi to

Kenya, it cost him his left arm due to a road accident. He remains hospitalized.

To be transformed is to give everything to Him who saved us and called us to be fishers of men. Our confidence is not in our ability to raise money or save money, but in the assurance that men and women like Painito and Rose Ambuka are having their hearts transformed and are willing to sacrifice everything to reach the world for Christ.

GOD IS CALLING ICM TO GREATER EFFICIENCY.

But more importantly God is calling ICM to expand its ministry. This is not the time to pull back, but a time to move forward. "Without faith it is impossible to please God." ICM is committed to being "radical in faith, conservative in finances, and effective in ministry!" Like Warren Buffett, we are bullish on Kingdom opportunities. Now is the time to invest. 🙌

MILITIA FIGHTERS IN KENYA SPARE ICM'S TRAINING CENTER

The intact dormitory and classroom buildings of the Mt. Elgon Training Center campus stood as a stark contrast to the burned and gutted building of the rest of Kopsiro town. The only other surviving buildings were a school and a stone church that had proven too difficult for the militia to tear down and destroy.

We were deeply moved at God's protection of our facility, and could envision that it would not take very much work to bring the training center back into full operation. Yes, it would open once again to train the next generation of Sabaot church leaders. But, we asked the local people, "Why did the militia spare the campus?"

"It was not because this was a place that trains pastors," Justus Kirui told me. "The militia said it was because of all the other things ICM has done here... the sheep for widows, the cows for pastors and the mosquito nets to protect the children that were given away." Justus added, "They [the militia] said that they could see that ICM was for the whole community, so they left us alone."

A Healing Ministry

Africa's issues are primarily those of leadership resulting in poverty and wars. Although ICM continues to address the core problems with leadership training and discipleship, we must also remember that in Mathew 10, Jesus admonished us to enter a community with blessing. To address the felt needs of the hurting.

Elizabeth Olubambi, a trained nurse and the wife of ICM Nigeria Director, has been operating a medical clinic in their community just a few kilometers outside Lagos, the capital. She has used this clinic as an outreach ministry to the many Muslims who live in the area and go there for health treatment and care. In most African communities, there is never enough medical supplies and equipment.

A number of months ago, Judi McCa, a trained nurse and the wife of an ICM USA board member, visited Elizabeth and saw the need. And just by divine



Francis and Elizabeth in traditional dress

“chance,” Kathy Bowe, ICM Donor Relations, hears about RICE International Relief Corp, a global faith-based organization that provides

medical supplies to mission organizations. Bringing medical resources to an area of need becomes more than a dream. These two ladies begin the coordinating process by first visiting the RICE warehouse to see what kind of medical supplies are available.

What they found was incredible! Such donated items as OTC medications, antibiotics, thermometers, hospital blankets, surgical supplies, crutches, walkers, and even wheelchairs had been sorted and shrink-wrapped on pallets valued at between \$20,000–\$30,000. They were available to us for only \$100 per pallet to help cover RICE's overhead.



Judi McCa, a Nigerian clinic nurse, Elizabeth, and Kathy Bowe at the medical clinic in Nigeria.

Judi went to Nigeria a second time, taking about 50 pounds of medical supplies to Elizabeth, and sharing the vision of possibly obtaining more supplies to her in the near future. In the meantime, ICM's landlord offered his driver and a truck to help transport 10 pallets full of medical supplies and equipment the 165 miles from Fontana to Bakersfield, the staging ground for a container. And now the challenge of loading this 40-foot container headed for Nigeria in May 2009. 🙏

WHAT MAKES ICM UNIQUE?

- ICM trains existing leaders through seminars, conferences, and formal programs at its Africa Theological Seminaries.
- ICM has represented the major training organizations in the US, across Africa, and the Middle East.
- ICM pioneered an “in-service” model of training that allows leaders to remain in their ministry and immediately apply what they've learned in the classroom.

- ICM's training programs have a focus on discipleship and transforming the heart with practical application.
- ICM has trained and equipped, and transitioned all ICM ministry in Africa to national leadership.
- ICM is a network of ministries bound together by a common mission – purpose, values, and vision.
- ICM is big in faith and conservative in finances.

“We have trained over two million leaders internationally.”

Bible Institute Donates its Library to ICM

Walking into what had been Rocky Mountain Bible Institute's theological library, Dale Peterson asked who was in charge of all these books. "No one," was the reply. After talking with administration and telling them about the need for books in ICM's Africa seminary libraries, Dale had acquired 1,800 reference books.

While this book acquisition was taking place in Colorado, the ICM's African country directors were meeting in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, discussing the need for additional seminaries in Nigeria, Ghana, Burundi and the Congo. And of course, these new locations all will require quality Christian reference books. How wonderful it is to see God orchestrate events for His glory.



ICM's Dale Peterson organizes a library of books donated to the ICM seminaries in East Africa.

But this was only the beginning. Church staff and individuals in California and Colorado have responded to the need by giving Bibles, concordances, commentaries and various reference books that have been collecting dust on their shelves for years. As the seminaries continue to add new courses to the BA and Diploma programs, reference material on Community Development, Conflict Resolution & Management, Sociology, Psychology, Africa Christian Theology, Islam in Africa, and anything with "Africa" in its subject matter will be needed.

Should you be interested in helping supply one book, or hundreds of books, please contact Dale Peterson in Denver at 303-990-1669 or email him at dpeterson@icmusa.org.

ICM, founded in 1986, is an interdenominational nonprofit organization, dedicated to the training and equipping of men and women in Christian ministry and service. ICM exists to serve the church by discipling and equipping her leaders through providing quality, in-service, culturally relevant theological educational and training.

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