



PRAYERLINES

MID-AFRICA EDITION | APRIL 2007



| *sharing Jesus, changing lives*

1**BURUNDI**

Miranda and Roger Bowen have recently finished at Matana Theological Institute. Thank God for Roger's work in the Institute, and Miranda's HIV/AIDS work. They need a place to live, and work for Miranda.

2

Pray for the Theological Institute at Matana. Despite small numbers enrolled, five out of the six dioceses have sent a student. The Bowens were delighted that the Rev Vincent Ndayimbona has been appointed as the full time director of the institute.

3

An estimated 800,000 Burundians need food assistance between now and July, with 80 per cent of crops damaged by rains and floods. Thousands of people are homeless or displaced. Malaria, cholera and diarrhoea are an increasing problem.

4

Pray for Archbishop Bernard Ntahoturi and the Province of the Anglican Church of Burundi as they seek to assist the people affected by the floods and food shortages. Give thanks for the response of CMS mid-Africa supporters to appeals for help.

5

Simon Guillebaud asks prayer for follow-up and discipling after an outreach festival in Gitega. Despite the rainy season, all five nights were clear of rain. There were "literally thousands who prayed to receive Christ, now the challenge for pastors begins."

6**GOOD FRIDAY**

Praise the Lord for giving his son to die for us and join in prayer with the many Christians throughout the mid-Africa region as we rejoice in the salvation that makes us one as we meet at the foot of the cross.

7

Members of many denominations attended a service during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in Bujumbura Roman Catholic cathedral and were encouraged to have fellowship as members of the Body of Christ. Pray that work together continues.

8**EASTER SUNDAY**

Hallelujah, Christ is risen! With our mission partners and fellow Christians in mid-Africa, let us thank God we can join throughout the world praising Jesus who rose from the dead and made us one in him.

9**UK**

Pray for the mission partners on leave in the UK, that they will be renewed in body, mind and spirit: Sheena McBain from Burundi, and Ann Moore from Kisiizi, Uganda. The Schoonbees from Gahini return to the UK on 19 April.

10**DR CONGO**

Steve Burgess, Mid-Africa Regional Manager, travels to Congo from 16 to 23 April to attend a Partners' consultation meeting. Pray for safety and for wisdom and grace in all the meetings and discussions.

11

Pray for the new Bishop of Bukavu, Bishop Bahati Balibusane and the diocese as he seeks to reconcile the groups that were causing division last year. Pray for Bishop Munzenda of North Kivu Diocese, who has been ill: pray for continued healing.

12

Eric and Sandra Read both now have Congolese counterparts to work with them (Esperance and Kasongo) as they develop pilot community projects on the edge of Lubumbashi, that whole communities may be transformed spiritually, socially and physically.

13

The Diocese of Aru and IPASC (Pan-African Institute of Community Health) and churches in the Diocese of Chester are developing a link partnership. Dr Pat Nickson is involved in this initiative, with Paul Thaxter, CMS mission movement team.

14

Please pray for the people of rural Avari in Aru, where they have had to close the health centre. Some nurses and midwives have asked to leave: they are afraid to work there because of accusations of witchcraft being practised at the clinic.

15

Thank God that a dentist from Australia, who was instrumental in setting up the dental clinic at Aru health centre, visited Aru with friends, bringing a motor bike for William, the dentist, to help him with the outreach work. He was quite overwhelmed.

16

Bishop Isingoma is responsible for preparations for a crucial meeting of the Anglican Church in Congo and its international partners. Also pray for him as he is enthroned as Bishop of Boga on 18 April. Pray that he will be mightily used by God.

17

UGANDA

Ann Moore at Kisiizi Hospital says two orphans in the special care baby unit – Tumushabe and Nabaasa Ruth – need caring families to look after them. Such babies do not do well if they remain in hospital.

18

Pray for Adrian and Jane Shutt at Kisiizi Hospital. Adrian returned to Uganda at the beginning of January. He stayed in Kampala for a couple of weeks and brushed up his skills on repairing cleft lips and palates. Jane takes up midwifery duties.

19

Staff at Bishop Barham University College, Kabale, are adapting to being a full Constituent College of Uganda Christian University. Continue to uphold the University Secretary, Mrs Mary Dutki, and pray for the vital appointment of a bursar.

20

Jenny Green in Kisoro praises the Lord that they signed the contract in February to build the first unit of a babies' home. Work began mid-February and should be completed in six months. Pray that it will be a good job completed on time.

21

Give thanks that Tom Cockburn has been able to join Jenny Green for six months under the Make a Difference scheme. He writes: "Praise God for Jenny Green and her ministry in Kisoro; please pray that I would know in what capacity I should be contributing."

22

Britta Menzel (wife of Christoph, doctor-in-charge at Rugarama Health Centre) has set up a pilot project for adult literacy in rural parishes of Kigezi Diocese. Now the work needs to expand into something permanent as it helps people enjoy learning to read.

23

Rugarama Health Centre now employs 83 people, and at times Dr Christoph Menzel has to investigate quarrels and envy. Pray for wisdom and grace for this, and that sick children will be brought to the Centre earlier rather than later, before it is too late.

24

Organisations which fill and send out shipping containers of aid are finding their work increasingly difficult (with customs regulations, rising costs, etc). Ask the Lord to provide for the hospitals in Africa, which depend on regular supplies.

25

RWANDA

Pray for Gahini Hospital staff as they continue medical services without their surgeon. It would be wonderful if a surgeon could be found to cover the time when the Schoonbees are still on leave.

26

Think of the Schoonbee children studying in South Africa: Wimpie starting 4th year Electronic Engineering studies; Suzanne in her 2nd year Medical Studies; and Arno in next-to-last year at boarding school in Stellenbosch. Mum and Dad visit in July, before returning to Rwanda.

27

Remember the catechists taught by Meg Guillebaud and her colleague, that their love for the Lord and his word may grow, and all they learn will be put into effect in their lives and ministry. Six deacons whom Meg taught last year have now become pastors.

28

Pray for all who gather in Southampton today to hear from mission partners Sheena McBain (on Burundi); Drs Bertha and Wim Schoonbee (on Rwanda); Ann Moore and Anna Roberts (on Kisiizi Hospital, Uganda) and Steve Burgess on DR Congo.

29

Ian and Sheena Whiteford in Cyangugu ask prayer for Ian starting a series of management training meetings (two a month throughout 2007) for all diocesan managers and head teachers. "We hope this will improve rudimentary management systems."

30

The Whitefords also ask prayer as they prepare to start a Bible study for the English-speaking staff and for ongoing meetings with young people wanting to use English: "one of the highlights of our week" with "interesting and deep communication across cultures."

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Cover image: Worship at Tsieme church in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo.
(Photo: Stephen Burgess/CMS)