

Worshipping under a tree at a village preaching point in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



FAR Reach Ministries

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Christian Education and Pastoral Training in the Great Lakes Region of Africa

After a wonderful few days with the Burundi church, I was blessed to have some time in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Eglise des Freres au Congo (COB Congo) is headquartered in the city of Uvira. It is a relatively short drive from Bujumbura, Burundi, the main issue being the border crossing. Always entertaining, border crossings typically require knowing who to talk with, what to say, when to say it and when to say nothing.

The denomination in Congo is headed by Pastor Ron Lubungo and has churches scattered along Lake Tangyanika on the eastern side of the country with a few others elsewhere.

The Uvira congregation meets on a rented plot of land. There is an office that serves as their denominational headquarters and a room used for their women's sewing project. The church though, gathers under a tarp for worship, pictured on the left.



Several of the Congo congregations have buildings, though needing finishing touches like windows, doors, cement floors, etc. As I've mentioned in previous newsletters and blog posts, the lack of high



Top: guitar made with a one gallon oil can.

Below: Shabani with the gift rabbits.

Bottom right: Political campaigning in the village streets.



dollar church buildings is not a hindrance to worship. The homemade guitar in the photo proves that even simple things can be meaningful and useful.

Also visited was the Global Food Initiative sponsored pig project located near the Lusenda church. The pigs are distributed to needy families in the community. The kind folks of Lusenda also gifted me with two rabbits. Since I would be crossing a couple of borders and taking multiple airplane flights in a few days, I thought it best to leave the bunnies with my friend Shabani.

Elections are to be held in Congo on 20 December. In the running are numerous local, provincial and national officers, as well as determining who will be their next president. Please pray that it will be peaceful!

Thank you!

Without your prayers and financial assistance, none of these projects could happen. We are grateful for the generosity of so many churches, individuals and organizations.

Donations may be sent to:

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Please write **Africa Great Lakes** on the memo line.

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