

from the

REGIONS BEYOND®

Bruce & Becky McDonald

October/November 2002

NAIROBI, KENYA: With Presidential elections set for December, the climate in Kenya is tense. Riots are a part of daily life in Africa, yet there has been a noticeable increase in the past month. In the midst of this we are enjoying the peace of God which covers every situation. It has been recommended that any American that can should depart Kenya during the month of December due to anticipated violence. We will therefore take this opportunity to visit with our families and children in the USA for the holiday season. Leading up to December we have a busy schedule of ministry in Russia, Latvia and Africa.



Becky & Bruce McDonald
Nile River, North Africa



The only street in Uvira, Congo

Eastern Congo: Uvira is home to 250,000 people who live with the daily uncertainties of war. At one time Uvira was a nice city on the shore of Lake Tanganyika with mountains rising on the other side of the road. Following years of civil war, Uvira is a dust bowl of destruction. The only road in the city is sometimes paved, more often dirt and rock, dropping off more than ten feet on either side. In the midst of a war zone, with bombs and guns filling the air, this was one of the most challenging crusades we have had in many years.

We had a hard time getting here because of the guns and shooting: Fighting resumed a few days before the crusade began. Throughout the days and nights, gunfire and bombs were our constant companion. The first day of the crusade the choir sang a chorus, *We had a hard time getting here because of the guns and shooting, but God made a way.* As in the early church in the USA, the choirmaster in Africa often sings a chorus of the day's experience and the choir repeats it in song. Rebel soldiers were ever present during the entire crusade.



Congolese Choir



Uvira, Congo
Hundreds respond to gospel message

Spiritual Breakthrough: People were clearly afraid and discouraged as they came to the crusade. Almost everyone in attendance had family members killed during the long genocides; many saw the massacres; others participated in the killing. The message of forgiveness was the point of spiritual breakthrough. At first people were afraid to respond to the altar calls because of soldiers standing in the background. As the days went on, hundreds of people, including rebel soldiers, responded to message of salvation as they filled the altar area, falling on their faces before God.

"Our desire is to preach the gospel in the regions beyond" 2 Corinthians 10:16

Regions Beyond International • PO Box 12549 • Tallahassee, FL 32317 • USA
e-mail: missionary@RegionsBeyond.org • Phone: (850) 308-5640 • Fax: (888) 258-4306
www.RegionsBeyond.org



McDonald Family

Central Africa ... Congo, Burundi, Rwanda: During September pastors from across Central Africa attended our three week training seminar held in Bujumbura, Burundi. Four times each year a select group of pastors attend the three week seminars in which they are taught bible doctrine, church government, pastoral ministry and a variety of other subjects including how to develop effective sermons, how to preach, how to teach the bible, prayer and leadership development.

Robert Mango reported that a new church has been started in the Congolese refugee camp in Goma and over forty people were baptized within one hour of the crusade we held in the camp two months ago.



Christian Drama In Burundi



Response At Uvira, Congo Crusade



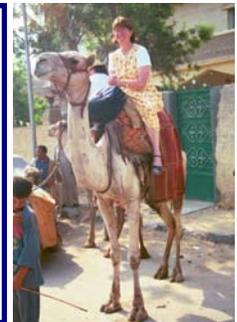
Rebel Soldiers Congo Crusade



Women's Project

THE REGIONS BEYOND. . . Former Soviet Union . . . Bruce will be in Russia and Latvia during October and early November, ministering to the churches we started and to leaders trained during our years living in Russia. Most of the travel will be on overnight trains. If you have had the opportunity to travel by overnight train in Russia, you can appreciate the physical rigors of this type of travel. **Ethiopia Crusade & Pastor's Conference . . .** In November we have a conference and crusade in Ethiopia. The crusade will be in a remote village not far from the Kenyan border. Although remote, we are anticipating an attendance into the tens of thousands.

Life On The Mission Field: Life as a missionary often involves the strange, unusual and frequently the uncomfortable. We frequently are told that we live a glamorous life and we "get to travel". If travel in war zones, refugee camps and the heat of the Sahara Desert is glamorous... In the past few months we have ridden a mule to the top of a mountain in Ethiopia, spent more nights on trains than we care to count, ridden more miles over terrible roads than our backs want to consider... but now... you get to see the biggest treat of them all... Becky riding a camel in the Sahara Desert!



Prayer Request: Becky

Becky is currently in the USA receiving medical treatment. Doctors in Nairobi were unable to diagnose the cause of severe swelling of her ankles and feet. We sent the lab results and other information to a physician friend in the USA and to Becky's personal physician in Tallahassee. They concurred that Becky needed to return to the states as quickly as possible. At the writing of this newsletter, we don't know the extent of the problem.

On-Line Giving

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