November 10, 2024

Craig Wickstrom – Congo

In my last update I mentioned that Cheryl and I have been struggling to decide how best to participate in God's mission. We are trying to do so while being sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit, but after 45 years together, we are still coming up with different answers.



Cheryl retired from teaching 16

months ago and wants us to minister together in a more relaxed setting – to our local community. I feel called to continue working with the CEUM (Congo) during this period – to nurture the relationship between CEUM and the Covenant.

Two areas are affecting our decision. First, we are reminded more and more we are no longer young. Secondly, finances make things particularly complicated. My ministry support has fallen to about 50% in 2024. I have been able to travel to the Congo by the grace of God. I have made nine trips since 2021, and plan to make one more before May.

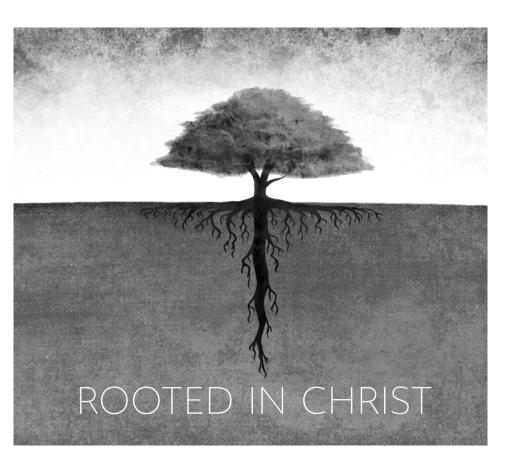
The second topic to discuss is the urgent need to find others willing to join in this ministry to the Congo. Two trips per year is not adequate and I cannot continue traveling to the Congo indefinitely. My desire is to find others willing to join me in walking alongside the CEUM and in nurturing its relationship with the American Covenant.

Prayer Requests:

- 1. For Cheryl & Craig as they seek the Lord's will for the future; that there will be unity.
- 2. For God to raise up someone to join in and work with CEUM.
- 3. For the CEUM leadership; for the coming business and elections in January.



1631 1st Ave E • Intl Falls, MN • 283-3365 • www.ifallscovenant.org
Wifi Password: Exodus 15:2



Pastor Seth Bjornrud • seth@ifallscovenant.org • 218.209.6293

Pastor Marco Griffith • marco@ifallscovenant.org • 218.417.0242

Worship Director • owen@ifallscovenant.org • 763.318.5690

Office • ecc@ifallscovenant.org • 218.283.3365

Prayer Request • prayer@ifallscovenant.org

Weekly Events & Opportunities

- A Parent's Room (back of the sanctuary) and Nursery (downstairs) are available for **families with young children.**
- It is time for **Operation Christmas Child!** Pick up a shoebox or two, fill it up with toys & other fun items. Included in each box are suggested gifts for the different age groups. Please include \$10/box for shipping, and return to the church by November 17.
- **Community Hymn Sing** will be on Sunday, November 17, from 4-5pm. Our time together will be led by Milt Layman. Please bring a pie to share in a time of fellowship following.
- **Women Growing Together** will be gathering on Monday, November 18 at 6:30pm. Elaine Johnson will be sharing!
- Holiday Cheer Boxes The Covenant Care Committee is asking for items to include in the holiday cheer boxes that will be given to shut-ins, others in the congregation and community that need encouragement. If you would like to contribute homemade breads, jams, honey, candy, fruit, etc. Please place your donation in Room 200 by Sunday, December 1. Questions? Please contact Lori Lyman at 218.290.6786. Thank you!

Weekly Calendar -

- Prayer Gathering Mondays at 6:30pm; contact Lynn Peterson with questions. (218.324.0508)
- Prayer & Praise Tuesdays at 6:45pm; contact Kimberly Nyborg with questions. (218.324.1202)
- Celebrate Recovery Tuesdays at 7pm in Room 200; led by Will Davies (218.240.1003) & Mary LePage (218.206.4814).
- Bible Study at Coffee Landing All men are welcome to join Dick Frederick (218.290.0703) on Wednesday mornings at 7am for a time of connection, coffee & study.
- Young Adults Thursdays at 7pm in the lower level; contact Kathy Galusha (286.5727) or Carol Anderson (324.2470) with questions.

Rooted in Evangelism

Colossians 4.2-6

2 Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. 3 At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—4 that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.

5 Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. 6 Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.