

# the de Jongh family



The villages of Kikongo and Vanga are no strangers to you, our dear supporters, as we have written of them several times. Below is an account of one of our key partners on a flight Jonathan did recently to a hospital in the village of Kikongo. Katherine recounts:

Stopping by Kikongo sounds easy enough. As a crow flies from Kinshasa to Vanga, it soars right over Kikongo. I sent a quick email "Dear Mission Aviation Fellowship, would you stop by Kikongo on your flight to Vanga? Dr Elvis, a resident in family medicine at Vanga, is doing a three month rotation at the Kikongo hospital, not only as chief (and only) staff physician but also as temporary director of the hospital. A visit would be such an encouragement to him, and the team there." With MAF's agreement I quickly contacted Dr. Elvis, and purchased medicines the hospital urgently needed.

Later I mused on what it took, by contrast, to "stop by Kikongo" by road. On the medical coordination team visit in February, we drove six hours on pavement in our rugged land cruiser before turning onto the dirt road toward Kikongo. We then labored ten hours to cover the last 105 kilometers (65 miles), discovering with regret that it was as deplorable as ever. At one point it was so completely washed away we bushwhacked blindly for several kilometers, the road swallowed up in elephant grass and scrub trees.

Blaise, a friend we brought along to lend his strong arms for occasional road repair, became our trail blazer. Machete in hand, he whacked this way and that, frequently having to retrace his steps. Dodging termite hills and tree stumps, a meter at a time, he eventually cut us a new road. No doubt vehicles coming this way would be grateful for this trail. There's nothing easy about "stopping by Kikongo!"

A doctor like Elvis, a team of nurses like those in Kikongo, our experienced physicians are Congo's best hope for extending healing and hope to under-served and poor patients. MAF has also partnered with us, often providing subsidized flights to place physicians like Dr. Elvis on the front lines in places like Kikongo. Please pray with us for God to raise up laborers. The work is great, and challenges many. Pray also that God would provide for, and prosper MAF's ministry in Congo, for their service makes "stopping by" in many places so much easier!



**Left:** Blaise, with his machete in hand, is clearing the road for the medical team to travel to the next village

**Right:** Dr. Tim Rice and his wife Kathy along with medical staff travelling by airplane with MAF



## April



Jonathan's parents came for a visit



Nicole facilitated the annual Velvet Ashes retreat with other missionary women

## May



Noah turned 10

## June



Aria turned 1



Wyatt turned 6



Otis and his best friend = lots of adventures



### School for Nicole

In January, Nicole started her very first Graduate class as she is working towards her Masters degree in Pastoral Counseling, with an emphasis in Marriage & Family. It has been an amazing opportunity, after years of prayer, to be able to learn and grow in things like Biblical Counseling, Spiritual Formation, and Multicultural Counseling. Please pray for her as she juggles many responsibilities this summer, including taking two classes! If you would like to support her in this journey please send her an email (listed below).

### THANK YOU

for partnering with the work of Mission Aviation Fellowship in West DRC to spread help, hope and healing to the most isolated parts of the world!

JONATHAN, NICOLE & THE KIDDOS



### HOW TO GIVE



#### ONLINE

Visit [www.maf.org/dejongh](http://www.maf.org/dejongh)



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