



Republic of Cameroon



République Démocratique du Congo



Republic of South Sudan

The Africa Appeal

Epiphany, 2015

The Africa Appeal is an outreach project the Traditional Anglican Church of Canada (TACC) under the administration of the parishes of St. Columba of Iona and St. Bride of Kildare. Along with traditional Anglicans in Australia, the USA and the UK, we send money to churches in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Cameroon and South Sudan. These fast-growing churches are, together with the parishes of the TACC, members of the Anglo-Catholic Church - Original Province, a worldwide communion of traditional Anglican Churches. Funds collected are used for clergy support and various projects developed and run by Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge (Congo), Bishop Wilson Garang (South Sudan) and Father Alphonse Ndutiye (Cameroon) such as building schools, a farming collective for widows, and sewing classes for victims of rape.

Dear Supporters of the Africa Appeal,

Along with the New Year and the arrival of the Magi in Bethlehem, it is time for an annual review of the work and finances of the Appeal. In 2014, we received donations totalling \$18,870. Of this, \$12,920 went to the church in Cameroon, \$4,900 to Congo, and \$750 to South Sudan. This leaves \$1,300 in the bank at the beginning of 2015 (all figures unaudited).

In 2013, Africa Appeal received a total of \$15,000 in donations so there has been an increase of \$3,870 for which we are very grateful!

The Cameroon project to build Vicar-General Fr. Alphonse a house has so far received \$500 (included in above total). You may recall from the Advent newsletter that an anonymous donor has pledged to match any donations received before the end of February 2015 up to \$1,500. This is a wonderful opportunity to double the effectiveness of your donation. There is still time to get your donation in before the end of February if you would like to take advantage of this generous offer. Please label your cheques "Fr. Alphonse house". If we raise more than the \$2,400 required to build the house, the money will be used for other projects.

The house will be built on church-owned land in Yaoundé and would allow the Vicar-General to live rent-free. He has recently been evicted from his rental home because he was unable to pay several months rent in advance - a common requirement in Cameroon and other African countries. The completion of this house will remove a huge source of stress and expense and enable Fr. Alphonse to focus on building the church in Cameroon.

The church in Congo continues to provide schools and health centres

The church in Congo continues its growth and development under the care of Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge. Projects include the provision of schools, both elementary and secondary, as well as health centres. Bishop Steven has established partnerships with the federal government in Congo, where the church provides the building which can be used as a school (or a clinic) and the government provides the professional staff. These efforts have been strongly supported by the Missionary Society of St. Paul in the USA, by Anglican Aid Abroad in Australia, and by individual parishes in the USA.

Africa Appeal was able to contribute funds for the mainly UK-funded renovation of an earthquake-damaged house on land owned by the church near the site of the future cathedral. Around 30% of the total cost was raised locally in Congo. The completed project has resulted in a significant saving for the Bukavu diocese as they no longer have to pay rent for diocesan offices or a worship space. This worship space, the chapel of Le Saint Trinité, is shown in the photo at right.

It is only with our financial support that the energy and ability of the local congregations can take on tasks which might seem impossible to those of us in Canada.



Chapel of Le Saint Trinité in newly-renovated building in Bukavu

Cameroon church working with government to provide future school and health clinic

I had a phone call from Fr. Alphonse the other day. He had been invited by government officials to visit the city of Edéa in the province of Littoral along the Atlantic coast, close to Douala, the largest city in Cameroon and the commercial centre for the country. We were able to send a little money for his bus fare and expenses. The result of the visit was that Fr. Alphonse has been offered a building where a new parish can be established, as well as providing space for a future school and possible health centre/clinic.

It is clearly wonderful to have such invitations, especially as they indicate the government's confidence in Fr. Alphonse, but the execution of such projects demands outside support. Certainly the budget of the Africa Appeal as it now stands is having difficulty coping with the rapid expansion of the church in Cameroon. It has grown from one priest and one parish in 2010 to a church comprised of a Vicar-General, nine priests and a deacon in 2014. Growth is likely to continue in 2015 despite financial limitations.



Our current project, whose finances are described at the beginning of this letter, is the construction of a house for Fr. Alphonse on church property so the money now being spent on rent can go to fund church growth. We can only begin to imagine what secure paid-for living quarters will mean for Fr. Alphonse as he faces the administrative and financial challenges of the coming year.

Fr. Alphonse (left) meets with government officials

Constuction of Cathedral in South Sudan continues despite racial tension

Our budget has not permitted us to be as helpful as we would like to the church in South Sudan. It



was becoming a little embarassing to receive telephone calls from Bishop Garang from his home in Nairobi as he was about to head out to visit his diocese in Aweil. Embarassing because I wanted to be able to support his wonderful cathedral project, funding for which had been sent by, amongst others, the parish of St. Mary Magdalen in Orange County, California. And then we received a donation which made it possible for Africa Appeal to send \$750 - which might be enough to purchase doors and windows to keep the half-finished structure secure.

One of the churches in the Diocese of Aweil

Recent news from South Sudan has been grim, with racial tensions at a high pitch. But fortunately this has not affected the Diocese of Aweil, which is not part of the oilfields and is therefore spared violent conflict. It is not, however, spared the grinding poverty of subsistence agriculture, made worse by frequent flooding brought about by torrential rains. This is a new country and some talk already of a failed state. But the people of the Diocese of Aweil do not intend to have that happen

to them; the Cathedral is a potent symbol of their hopes and prayers and I am delighted that we were able to help them in some small way in 2014.

A note on the administration of the Africa Appeal

As you may be aware, the parishes of St. Columba of Iona and St. Bride of Kildare, members of the Traditional Anglican Church of Canada, currently oversee the collection and distribution of funds for the Africa Appeal. These TACC parishes, along with the parishes we support in Africa, are members of the Anglo-Catholic Church-Original Province, a world-wide communion of traditional Anglican churches. The recent Synod of the TACC in October 2014 decided that the TACC would become more involved in the operation of the Appeal. Eventually, the day-to-day operations of the Appeal will be transferred from the two parishes to the national church.

As this is expected to take some time, the Synod agreed to the formation of a committee of advice comprised of Fr. David Marriott SSC, Mrs. Willa Rea and Fr. Peter Jardine from St. Matthew's Ottawa, Mr. Scott Ferguson of St. Bride's Pitt Meadows, BC, and Mr. Bert Dantu, also from St. Bride's and the Missionary District Treasurer.

Please continue to send your donations, with cheques made out to the Parish of St. Bride or the Parish of St. Columba as noted at the end of this letter. There is no change to the current policy that all moneys received will be transferred to Africa with no deductions. This is the same policy followed by Anglican Aid Abroad in Australia and the Missionary Society of St. Paul in the USA.

I am excited about this move towards a more well-defined national presence and hope that the Africa Appeal will become an important expression of the Christian commitment of the Traditional Anglican Church of Canada in the wider world. Clearly, we in Canada must find a way to grow the Africa Appeal to keep pace with church growth in Africa. We cannot do this without you, our supporters; your prayers, donations and support are very important to me and to the other members of the committee of advice.

Thank-you for all that you have done in 2014 and may 2015 bring new challenges and successes.

In Christ,
David+

If you have comments or questions:

Please contact Father David Marriott SSC, at 409-15210 Guildford Dr., Surrey, BC V3R 0X7
or drm274@hotmail.com

How to give support to these churches:

There are no deductions from moneys received by the Appeal; the full dollar amount is sent to Cameroon, South Sudan or Congo. Any overheads are paid from gifts received for this purpose.

In Canada

The Parish of St. Bride, c/o 20895 Camwood Ave., Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2N9

Or

The Parish of St. Columba, c/o Box 894, Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0

*Please make a note that the funds are for the Africa Appeal on the front of the cheque.
Tax receipts will be issued by the parishes.*

In the USA

The ACC Mission Fund, The Anglican Catholic Church, PO Box 5223, Athens, GA 30604

In Australia

Anglican Aid Abroad, PO Box 256, GRANGE, QLD 4051

Or

A safe and inexpensive way of sending your gift is to make a deposit at any WESTPAC BRANCH to our Account at Morningside: MISSIONARIES OF ST ANDREW – ANGLICAN AID ABROAD 034 058 58 0656 - or use the INTERNET.

If you need a receipt for tax purposes or acknowledgement in the newsletter, please write to tell us your name, details of the deposit and enclose a self-addressed envelope. If you intend the donation for a special project, please let us know, so we can designate it accordingly.

In the UK

Cheques should be made payable to “Anglican Catholic Church - Diocese of the United Kingdom” and marked on the back: “Missions – Cameroon, Congo or S. Sudan” as appropriate and sent to: Diocesan Treasurer, ACC Diocesan Office, St Nicholas House, 42-48 High Street, Lydd, Kent TN29 9AN