

December 2015

Merry Christmas! Joyeux Noël!

These are the younger kids in Sunday School practicing singing and dancing one of the songs they performed in church on Christmas morning. I wish this was an audio/visual prayer letter so you could see and hear them.



Pediatrics

This is a very busy time of the year in Pediatrics at Bongolo. It's the rainy season, so we have lots of children with malaria caused by mosquitos, which breed when there is a lot of water. Malaria causes blood cells to pop, so some children need urgent blood transfusions. Sometimes malaria attacks the brain, and children have seizures. On Christmas day we had 34 children for 26 beds. That means children in the Emergency Department and on mattresses on the floor. This boy is on a mat on the floor. He is feeling better after his transfusion. When he arrived he needed oxygen but he was not too excited about the oxygen tubing near his face. I gave him the little firetruck in the picture, made some firetruck sounds, and he calmed down.

Praises

- During the year 2015, 2323 people decided to follow Jesus at Bongolo.
- We bought some new tests and the CD4 machine started working!
- I was able to renew my residency paper without difficulty.

Prayer Requests

- Audrey, a nurse in Outpatient/Emergency had recurrence of breast cancer this month and has gone to be with her family. Pray for her and her family. It has been a difficult year for Outpatient/ER. Albert, a nurses aide, died unexpectedly in November, a nurse left suddenly in the summer, and I was gone for several months due to illness. We no longer have enough staff to have a nurse overnight in the ER every night until the next nursing school graduation three years from now. Pray for a solution for this problem.
- During church Christmas morning, I admitted a 2 year old boy with symptoms very concerning for polio. The public health authorities are doing tests. Thankfully the boy is doing better, and there are no other cases. Pray that this is the only one.
- Neither of the warming tables to care for a sick baby immediately after delivery is working. We have ordered hot water bottles and a part for one of the tables. Pray that the part works.
- Continue to pray for another long-term Primary Care doctor- Internal Medicine, Family Practice or Med/Peds to come to Bongolo.

Thank you for praying.
Blessings and Happy New Year 2016,
Renée

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Thank you for contributing to the CMA's **Great Commission Fund**. Your gifts to the **GCF** make it possible for the Alliance to send me to Bongolo and to show God's love around the world. Here are some ways you could designate a gift: **Support of Renée Valach**- goes to the Great Commission Fund toward allowance, etc. **Work of Renée Valach**- for special work projects related to my ministry **Bongolo Hospital HIV/AIDS Treatment**- toward HIV treatment, particularly the pediatric patients

