

# Congo Mission Network Annual Conference

September 21 – 23, 2017  
at Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church

## Moving Mountains in the Congo through Reconciliation

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2017

- 4:00 - 7:00 Preregistration  
4:00 – 7:00 Meet and Greet – Dinner at local restaurants **as arranged by attendees**

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

- 8:00 - 9:00 Registration with Continental Breakfast  
8:30 - 8:55 CONGO 101 – **For Newcomers** - Basics about the Congo, its Presbyterian Churches, and Ministries: **Jimmy Shafe & Anne Crane**  
9:00 - 9:10 WELCOME by Co-Convener Roberta Spalding and Pastor Lauren Gully  
9:10 - 9:20 DEVOTION – **Elder Simon Ntumba Tshitenge** ( 2 Corinthians 5: 17-18) ending with singing “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” in English & Tshiluba  
9:20 - 9:35 Overview of Conference Goals and Introduction of Congolese Keynote Speaker(s): Roberta Spalding  
9:35 - 10:20 KEYNOTE ADDRESS: **Current Conditions in the DRC; Causes of Conflict & Why Reconciliation is Critical – Dr. Pakisa Tshimika, Ph.D.**  
10:20 – 10:30 Q&A  
10:30 – 10:45 Break  
10:45 - 11:30 KEYNOTE SPEAKER: **Historical Perspectives & Bantu Strategies for Conflict Transformation and Reconciliation – Pakisa Tshimika,**  
11:30 – 11:40 Q&A  
11:45 – 12:45 *Grace (Elder Ntumba), Lunch, & Late Arrival Check-in. (We will sing “God Bless Africa” as part of Grace)*  
12:45 - 1:35 KEYNOTE SPEAKER: **Conflicts in Ministry & How They were Handled - Elder Simon Ntumba Tshitenge**  
1:35 – 1:45 Q&A  
1:45 – 2:20 KEYNOTE SPEAKER: **Current Situation in the Kasai Region: Elder Simon Ntumba Tshigenge**  
2:20 – 2:30 Q&A  
2:30 – 2:55 CMN Ministry Groups & Other Reports: **George Collins on Build Congo Schools, Christi Boyd on Healing Hearts: Trauma Healing for Children; Jimmy Shafe on MissionHope (formerly ROW) & UPC (Universite Protestante au Congo)**  
2:55 – 3:10 Break  
3:10 – 3:30 CMN Ministry Groups & Other Reports Cont’d: **Congo Helping Hands** (Woody Collins), **MBF** (Mark Harris), **Health Collaborations** (Bill Rule)  
3:35 – 4:00 Health Collaborations Group: Suggestions & Recommendations (for all who are interested)  
4:05 – 5:00 Ministry Group Planning: Education (for all who are interested)  
5:05 – 5:55 Ministry Group Planning: Trauma Healing for Children (for all who are interested)  
6:00 – 7:00 Grace [*Jeff Boyd*] & Supper at LOPC

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- 8:30 - 9:00 Check-in for new people & Continental Breakfast (Give Congo 101 handouts to attendees)
- 9:00 - 9:15 DEVOTION –“Where Will We Fix Our Eyes” (2Kings 2:1-15) & singing “How Great Thou Art” and “Amazing Grace”; **Pakisa Tshimika,**
- 9:15 - 9:40 Debbie Braaksma: “Mission Updates & Mission in the Midst of Conflict”
- 9:40 - 9:50 Q&A
- 9:50 - 10:20 Christy Boyd: “Children's Ministries”
- 10:20 - 10:30 Q&A
- 10:30 - 10:40 *Break*
- 10:40 - 11:05 Jeff Boyd, “Partnerships in Congo”
- 11:05 - 11:15 Q&A
- 11:15 - 11:40 Inge Sthreshley, “Clean Cookstoves: Technology That Reduces both Economic & Environmental Pressures”
- 11:40 - 11:50 Q&A
- 11:50 - 12:20 Dr. Larry Sthreshley, Ph.D. “Responding to Humanitarian Crises with a Developmental Approach”
- 12:20 - 12:30 Q&A
- 12:30 – 1:25 Grace (Sing “God Bless Africa”), Lunch and Open Space conversations
- 1:25 - 2:15 **ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION** among keynote speakers and mission co-workers: *Integrating Conflict Reconciliation in our Different Ministries; i.e. Health, Education, Youth, Vulnerable Children, Partnership Relations; etc. Moderated by Pakisa Tshimika, Ph.D.*
- 2:15 - 2:25 Q&A
- 2:25 - 2:50 **Reports from local congregations** (5-7 minutes each; Jan Sullivan from First Pres. Evanston, IL; Belinda Dickinson from Sheppards & Lapsley Presbytery; Herb Long & Sue Gibbons from LOPC on Advocacy.
- 2:50: - 3:15 **Doing Advocacy:** The nuts and bolts of planning and doing.
- 3:15 - 3:30 *Break*
- 3:30 - 4:15 **Ministry Groups Planning** (Education, Health, & Ministries to Vulnerable Children & Women): Open to those most interested in serving in one of these areas.
- 4:15 - 4:30 Ministry Groups’ Reports on Plans for Coming Year. (3-4 minutes each)
- 4:30 - 5:00 Business Meeting; Plans for 2018;
- a. Should we add a Thursday half day to the conference?
- b. Election of CMN Board Members.
- 2018 Conference: To be hosted by Simonsdale Pres., Portsmouth, VA; Dates TBD**
- 5:15 – 5:30 *Break*
- 5:30 – 6:15 **Worship with music by Congolese musicians**
- 6:30 – 7:30 Grace [*Herb Long*] & Supper at Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

- 9:00 & 11:00 Lafayette-Orinda Church Services: We would love for you to join us on Sunday: (Also, other local churches may engage CMN speakers in services)