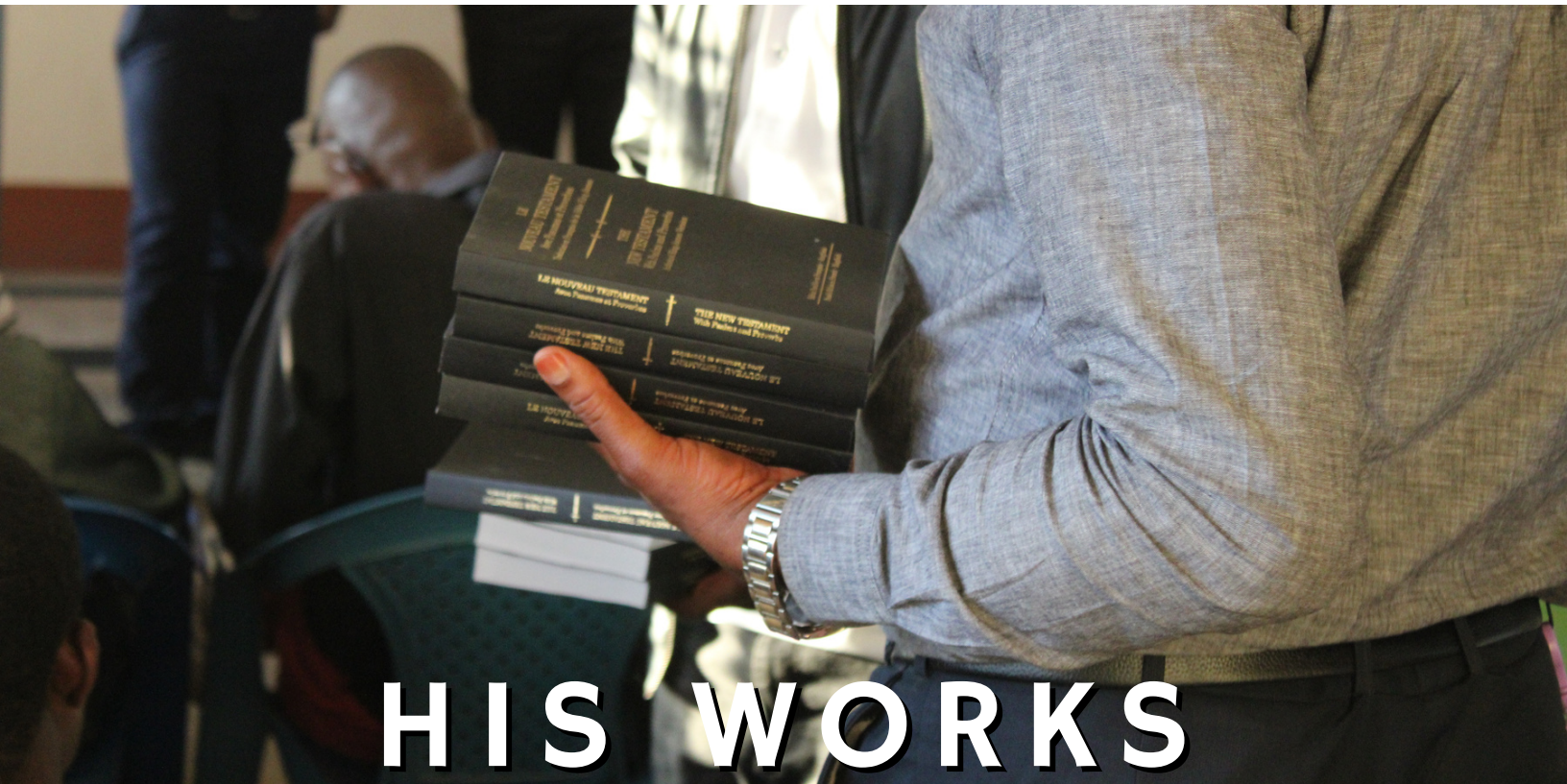




Issue #10  
June 2022

# GEMS

GLOBAL EVANGELISM MINISTRY SERVICES



## HIS WORKS







Michael Williams Family

# His Works

By Michael Williams, Director of GEMS

***John 4:34-38 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work. (35) Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. (36) And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. (37) And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. (38) I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.***

As my plane headed to the Democratic Republic of the Congo in April, these are the verses to which God lead me and has confirmed the message as time has gone by as our purpose there has unfolded.

First, it is so very plain that the work in the Congo is not the work of men but of God. It is simply for me to go where He sends and finish His work. It is also evident that the harvest is now: People are searching for answers and seeking truth – how can we rest when there is work to be done!?

Next, without a doubt God has sent me into other men's labors. Men and women of God from generations past have gone before me and struggled to break ground, plant seeds and care for growth; I humbly rejoice to be a part of their sacrifice and service for the LORD.

In the weeks leading up to our second trip to DR Congo, God once again provided in an amazing way. We were given materials for the trip through four different churches in the U.S that we visited:

1. A lady in California gave money for 8 Proclaimers (audio Bibles) which we were able to take into the interior for a work that is being established as a base for reaching unreached people groups.
2. God used a widow to pay for the printing of 10,000 Gospel tracts to give to the Congolese churches and Bible college students to help them in evangelism.
3. A church gave us 2,600 French John and Romans from their print shop.
4. A church purchased 50 French/English New Testaments that we were able to give to Congolese Bible college students.

You may remember that on our first trip we met a Congolese man who had a vision for reaching a particular area in the interior. We also had been praying for a long time for an open door to the unreached and were so excited by this newly found contact. Since then, we have continued to pray for these unreached and for a door to reach them. I had been in touch with our contacts in the weeks leading up to our second trip and things seemed to be coming together smoothly for a trip into the interior region to which we hoped to go; however, upon arrival, I was informed that Rebel groups had been in that general area in each of the two months preceding our trip. Of course, caution needed to be exercised, yet, I was sure God had placed this trip on my heart for a reason so we gathered, prayed, and asked God to order our steps in His Word that we might know whether to proceed and how.



Congolese Village Roads

The answer came and was clear: In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me. Psalms 56:11 Next came a clarification, you must go, for every tribe must hear. And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; Revelation 5:9 . With the clarification came the reminder, .... and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Mat 28:20

So, we packed up our stuff, rented a land cruiser and we headed into the interior. To give all the details of this trip would take more than a magazine so let me give you some highlights:

· The trip took us 26 hours; about 12 of those hours were spent trying to dig the Land Cruiser out of huge potholes full of mud. We spent the night sleeping on the ground in the middle of nowhere.





Congolese Hut Houses

· God allowed Grant and some others to preach to some soldiers and give them tracts. When we saw them again later, they asked for Bibles.

· God led us to the contact we needed to be able to get to the villages of the unreached.

· God showed all of us a pattern for the future.

· God gave me specific scripture to pray in that place. I prayed as God's spirit directed: That thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth; to them that are in darkness, Shew yourselves.... Is.49:9 We returned to Lubumbashi and finished our trip with being able to encourage many pastors, teach in some new church plants, and spend some time teaching in the Bible College.

\*God has opened the doors for some unreached areas through contacts we met on this trip, and we are so excited to see what the future holds for our part in this uncharted work.

The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few.

### Family update:

God has been so good as we have traveled around the U.S. to many churches. We have been so blessed by the people of God and the care they have shown our family as well as their hearts of help and sacrifice to get the gospel around the world. Thank you for continuing to partner with us for the cause of Christ!



Congo Village Church Congregation



Brooke Williams playing piano for a prayer meeting at Historical Church



Williams Family at Northstar Baptist Church



# Haven of Rest

By Roy Thompson

In early June, Lois and I together with our children traveled north via Chicago. The purpose of the visit was twofold:

1. To give Lois and the children a first-hand look at the Haven of Rest mission house, to appreciate the vision as well as the challenges of a building restoration.

2. A time with the Williams family to study the Bible together, to pray together, and to play together (mostly basketball for Roy) and to see a bit of the Upper Peninsula, the Falls, and the northern shore where nighttime beach combing yielded rocks that glow under a black light!

God used this time to strengthen our faith in what God is able to do through steadfast, believing prayer.



## Faithaven Lodge: Construction Update

Work continues on the restoration of the Farmhouse and Lodge. We praise God for the help with and provision of supplies thus far. We ask that you continue to pray with us and for us as we seek to provide a place of help and hope for those in need.





*"Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all."*

*Ps 34:19*

Five weeks ago, Patrick started having a cough and in two days he could barely sleep. We were compelled to drive to the ER in the middle of the night. He was admitted to the intensive unit for lung infection with negative Covid test. By the grace of God, his condition improved and he was released on the fifth day for follow up with a specialist as the ER doctors could not explain the cause. Patrick had fully recovered from the lungs, yet his blood pressure was out of control. About three weeks ago, we met with the specialist, who recommended a hospital stay so that they may further investigate and recommended a treatment plan. After two weeks in the hospital, things seem to be working toward the desired end. We are thankful to God for the wisdom He gave to the doctors and the medication they were able to recommend. We want to thank those of you heard our need and called on the Lord on our behalf. The Lord has sustained us. Please continue to pray for Patrick's full recovery.

We have mentioned the ministry that the Lord has given us about two hours away from our home. God has been sending visitors to the meetings, and some families have been very faithful. Christelle led two children to the Lord during children Sunday school a few weeks ago. Please pray for Noah and Pascal's spiritual growth. Patrick has held individual bible studies during the week and following one of those bible studies, the man and his wife, both catholics, came to rest in Christ for the salvation of their souls.

One of the faithful ladies attending the Bible study is a nurse practitioner who works in hospice care. She wanted to quit her job, as she mainly care for dying patients. But since she learnt how to witness to the lost, she was able to win several patients to the Lord before their final breath, and has found joy to go to work. Please pray for more souls to be saved through her.

The little flock that attends the weekly Bible study is eager to serve the Lord. They faithfully go out soulwinning and it becomes clear that we must move to Stuttgart to care for it and the young believers. We are now looking for suitable housing. We may also soon need to rent a building for our meetings. Left, a special day with attendants of the Bible study. Brethren, pray for us.



**Above: Church congregation at Stuttgart**

**GEMS (Global Evangelism Ministry Services)** is a ministry out of Calvary Baptist Church, 3812 Kirby Parkway, Memphis, TN 38115-5288. These ministry updates are published at least four times a year and may be requested at no cost by mailing to the above address or by going to our website at <http://www.gems4christ.com>



# God's Blessings

By Grant Williams

The blessings God gives are numberless and being able to return to the DR Congo was truly one of them. It's been an unspeakable privilege to be allowed to be a part of what God is doing and see Him at work. I was very excited about going back, God had made it clear the last time that He was working, and I was looking forward to what was next. We went this time without a particular gameplan. We just waited to see what God brought forward. The first Sunday we were there, my dad had the opportunity to speak in one of the church's morning services, as well as the English service in the evening. On Monday we began to pray about going to a remote area with a man planning to start a church there. One of the pastors warned us against it because the rebels had been active near the area recently, but as we prayed, God sent another man to us that has family in that area and said we were good to go.

We now looked for a car. We finally found one and arranged with him, but he then left without us! Frustrating, but we got another, much

better car, and later passed the previous car broken down! Oh, the foresight of God. Nothing is ever mis-planned with God! We traveled down the roughest road I have ever been on; the holes were bigger than the truck at times! According to Google, our route should have been a 4-hour ride, but it took much longer. We had a great time of fellowship though with pastor Karong and missionary Paul. Along the way we were able to pull out another truck that had been stuck almost 11 hours. Almost a day later, they were the ones to pull us out when we were stuck! God is good.

In several places along the way we gave out tracts in Swahili and French, as well as John and Romans. The people were hungry, and we had so little to give. Towards the evening, we had a filter problem on the car, up until then the drive had been good, but at the village, the man who fixed the filter had had a bit to drink; combine that with the nighttime, and we had a wild ride! We got stuck in a hole eventually, but around 20 local men helped us out. Not long after that, our driver, still drunk, drove in another hole, bigger than the one before. As we went into the hole, we tipped to far I thought I was going to go through the window and into the water outside. We were really stuck. One front tire was in the air, and one back tire was really sunk, the water was at the gas intake! As it ended up, we spent the night outside on the ground, waiting. We weren't prepared for how cold it would get, or how bad the mosquitos would be. Thankfully we had a little bug spray. I can honestly say that that night was miserable, but God never lets things happen for nothing. The next day, as we waited for some local men to help us, God gave me the opportunity to witness to a small group of young men. I hope and pray that they accepted Christ.

We also met a Christian woman from the North who needed some questions answered about some things she didn't understand. We had these opportunities as the result of being stuck. What a tradeoff! As I thought then, if being uncomfortable, so- called suffering means an opportunity to give the Gospel, help people struggling, and see God at work, then I'm in.

As the day continued and our truck was still stuck. Being short on time we decided to take the only other transportation, motorcycle taxis. This was by far my choice of travel, we could get four guys on one bike, and the drives were great! God had put things in order, and one of the first people we met was the head of the government post of the area and a friend of Missionary Paul.

We had the opportunity to visit and pass out tracts in the town hospital, the poor section of town, to the military, and to the police. It was a unique experience to give tracts to men carrying AK 47's, and they came from all over the country. They needed tracts in



**Above: Grant Williams passing out tracts to the government with Pastor Kazongo & his friend**



**Local men helping the Williams get their car out of a hole**

Kilonjo, Lingala, Swahili, French, and Chiluba. Later we went back and the spokesman for the group said, "We have read the papers you gave us, but we don't have Bibles to know if what is said be so. Can you bring us Bibles?" We told them we didn't think God would refuse a request for His Word, and we would try. Those words from that soldier had touched my heart, The need for Bibles in their languages is great. There isn't anywhere to find them in the country, even if they had the money. I also had the privilege to preach Easter Sunday, a privilege I don't deserve. It's quite an experience when every passage of Scripture is read in English, then French, then Swahili! I love the singing also; the people have beautiful voices. Right at the end of the trip we were able to be a part of the midweek service of a newly started Howe church full of truly sweet people with a desire for trust. A very special time, and the trip was all too short. I hope in the future to be able to stay longer.

Yours in Christ,

Grant Williams

# For Such A Time

By Sue Grumley

**Member of Northstar Baptist Church McMillan, MI**

Could God really do something 2 years ago to provide 10,000 people in the Congo to hear the Gospel today? He not only could, but He did! Plus, He used the US government to do it! Let me tell you how!

Michael Williams and his family were at my church, which is his home church, Northstar Baptist Church in McMillan, Michigan. His father started the church and has pastored here for 47 years. It was a Wednesday night, and during a time of testimonies and prayer requests, Michael told us of his upcoming trip to the Congo. Among other things, he mentioned that they had 10,000 tracts printed that they were going to take. I am always looking for a good investment opportunity, so my ears perked up. "Wow! I would love to have a part in 10,000 people hearing the Gospel. What an opportunity!" As Pastor Williams preached, I couldn't get my mind off those tracts. I thought about how much they would cost and how much I could give. I wanted to buy ALL of them because actually I am very selfish, and I wanted all of the blessings for myself. The thought crossed my mind that this is such a great opportunity that anybody in their right mind would want to get in on this. I did the math in my head and figured 10,000 tracts would probably cost around \$1,000.

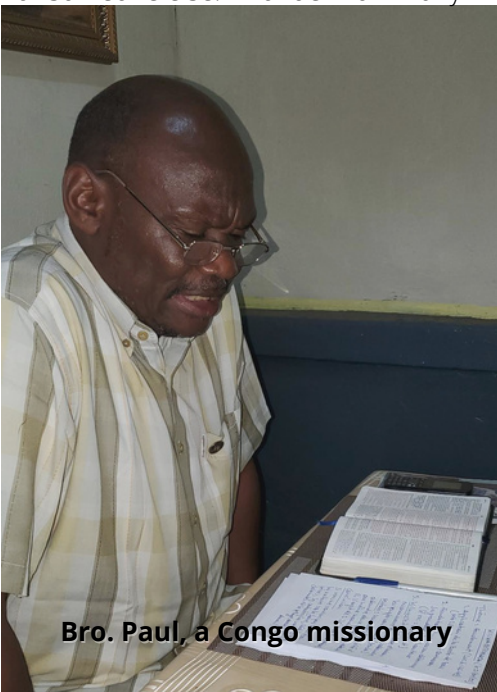
I could hardly wait for the service to be over (sorry pastor!) so I could talk to Michael. I almost ran up to him so that I could be the first in line to tell him that I wanted to pay for the tracts. I made it! I was first in line... actually the only one in line! God didn't lay this on anyone else's heart but mine. I asked Michael if anyone had paid to have the tracts printed yet, and he said no. I asked him how much they cost, and he looked at me with what I thought was a doubtful look on his face, and he said \$1,050. I told him I was figuring \$1,000 but thought I could come up with the extra \$50 and wanted to pay for them. I was so excited! I went, home, wrote out the check, and put it in my Bible to put in the offering on Sunday.

Now for the rest of the story... that Sunday morning, I checked my bank account to make sure that the money I owed on income taxes had been taken out. I noticed a random deposit from social security for \$1,070. I am a widow and have been receiving social security for the past couple of years, but I have never received that amount before. It wasn't even the normal day of the month that I get my check direct deposited. I had no idea why I received this deposit. I received a letter in the mail the next day from Social Security saying that they had made a mistake in 2020! That money was in my account before Michael said anything about the tracts, and God laid it on my heart to give the money for them. God not only paid for the tracts, but He gave me an extra \$21 just for fun!

As I meditated on what God did, I have come to realize some things:

- God led or allowed someone to make a mistake 2 years ago at the Social Security office for me to get the money when I did.
- God also led or allowed someone to notice the mistake at the right time.
- This person not only discovered it but did something to rectify the situation.
- God then led Michael to our church to share his burden that night.
- God wants those 10,000 people to hear about His precious Son and the sacrifice that He made for them.
- It costs less than 11 cents per tract for a person to receive the Gospel.

I love it when God makes His will so clear, plain, and obvious. How humbling it is that the Creator of the universe chose me to help get the Gospel to those people! When God lays something on your heart- DO IT! Every single decision we make can affect eternity for someone else. I wonder how many miracles I miss out on because I am not listening to or for His voice.



## **How to support the Gospel Tract & Proclaimer Audio Bible ministry:**

Send checks to GEMS with "Operation Proclamation" or "Congo Gospel Tracts" in the memo or donate online via our website: <http://gems4christ.com>





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## Ghana Update

Update: The village churches are thriving and doing well, but the forces of evil are not resting and letting the churches grow without difficulty.

Prayer Request:

- 1.) Please pray for Bro. Nicholas and Bro. Kwabena, the two lead pastors of the village churches, as they have faced much sickness but continue to go forward for the Lord.
- 2.) Pray for Obeng, the young Ghanaian man who oversees the GEMS guesthouse and compound. Still in school, Obeng faces resistance to and mocking of his Christian beliefs.
- 3.) Pray for upcoming Prayer Camp 2023

**Right: Bro. Nicholas & Bro. Kwabena**



Visit our website at:  
**Gems4Christ.com**

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