



The WAM Report

From **Wendy And Mike** Buchanan

Serving with Wycliffe Bible Translators in computing and accounting at the JAARS Center, Waxhaw, North Carolina

March 2018

A colleague working in Congo recently came across this old photo of the SIL-Congo team, taken a few months before war broke out in 1997. The quality of the photo is poor, but I count 45 adults and children, gathered at our SIL center in Brazzaville. All expatriates. The Congolese staff who maintained the center were not part of our team meetings, however, the team's desire was to see the Congolese people and churches taking more ownership of the Bible translation movement.



Now fast forward twenty years to the SIL-Congo group photo in March 2017. What do you notice?

Just 17 people, 14 of whom are Congolese. What a transformation!

Transition is never easy, but we praise God for the Congolese staff who are now members of SIL-Congo, filling key roles in the organization. The future of SIL-Congo is very much in the hands of Congolese, although expatriates are still heavily involved as remote funders and as regional directors and support staff for the SIL entities in Africa.

Translation work is progressing in eight different languages. The Bible Society of Congo is working in several additional languages.

Thank you for your prayers and support which allow us to help SIL-Congo translate God's Word into the languages of the Congolese people so that they can better understand the Good News!



SIL Congo director—Rock Bankousou and assistant director—Thaliane Zaou-Goma

Family news

Night at the Museum

The Alphabet museum where Wendy gives tours, recently started a new nighttime program for special groups visiting JAARS called Night at the Museum, patterned after the movie with the same name, we have five or six characters in the Alphabet Museum “come alive” and explain about their role in alphabet making. Wendy explains the Hebrew writing system, dressed as Miriam, the sister of Moses. Michael is Jean François Champollion, the father of scientific Egyptology who helped decipher the Egyptian hieroglyphic system.



Mike as Jean François with the Rosetta Stone.

David and Ashley have moved to Hamilton NJ in preparation for David beginning seminary this fall. They have both found jobs and are also looking for a church in which to minister.

Elizabeth is enjoying her second semester at Columbia International University in South Carolina. She is also working part-time at Chick-Fil-A. This summer, she has been hired to work with the week-long camping program here at JAARS for church groups wanting to learn more about missions.

Wendy and Mike Buchanan



We praise God:

- For the ongoing work in CAR and Congo.
- For David and Ashley finding jobs in Hamilton NJ.

Please pray:

- Healing for Wendy dealing with some adrenal and chronic fatigue.
- For Michael as he works with a team developing a new corporate website. That it would be easy to navigate and useful to those who will use it.

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