

Worldwide Day Without Telephones

(Photo: Man outdoors)

Anyone who loves the Congo should not forget February 6, on which everyone supports the Congolese.

Indeed, coltan, which is the basic material in the manufacture of cell phones, comes from the DR Congo. Normally the Congolese should rejoice in this wealth and profit from it, but the facts are such that coltan is the basis of armed conflict in eastern DR Congo. Instead of bringing happiness, coltan rather brings misfortune.

The fundamental question remains as to how the Congolese will observe this day.

The radio station "Okapi" of the United Nations in the Congo announced that day in its news, but at the same time it runs the program "Word to the Listeners" which requires the use of cell phone to call in!

If the Congolese do not respect this day, it is also because of ignorance. They need to be reminded.

By observing the day without telephones, the Congolese help bring an end to the conflict in eastern Congo.

Installation of Reverend Bafalanga

(Photo if installation)

On Sunday, February 5, 2012, the Reverend Jeannette Bafalanga was installed in her position as Head Pastor of the Parish of New City to replace the Rev. Michael Likomba who was assigned to the parish of Mbandaka III as Head Passtor.

The Reverend Bafalanga was made Head Pastor after 16 years as assistant in the same parish. Her installation was performed by Rev. Jean Pierre Mpumbu Ekinda who represented the Principal Supervising Pastor, the Rev. Bernard Ilumbe Ndjongo. 473 people attended this service in which the Reverend Pastor Bafalanga became the third woman to be designated as Head Pastor in a parish of Mbandaka after the Reverend Mary Louise Likafo and Reverend Mary Bongiseke.

(photo of crowd)

This installation follows a decision by the Urban Council of Mbandaka, which met January 26, 2012. Thus the Rev. Jean Pierre Lompay left Mbandaka III for the Parish of Air - Congo, Reverend Mabunde is assigned to Djombo, the Reverend Roger Efandja leaves Air - Congo to assist the Reverend Bafalanga in the parish of New City and catechist Mosendo will work in the

parish of Nganda Lomboto with Rev. Marie Therese Bampoka who just completed her undergraduate studies at the Protestant University of the Equator.

Retreat at the General Secretariat

(Photo: People in a meeting room)

From Tuesday to Thursday, January 24-26, 2012, the staff of the General Secretariat of the ECC / CDCC-10 held a retreat in the chapel of the General Secretariat. It was an opportunity for everyone to consider how he had performed all year 2011 and to assess his contribution to the vision of the Community, that of being a strong church spiritually and materially in the heart of Africa .

A systematic assessment was made and decisions were made for more effective planning in the year 2012.

It should be noted that the staff has observed with satisfaction the atmosphere of peace that exists within the Administrative Office of the church and the efforts made by the Management Committee to make real the concept of the 3 year overall assessment of the vision.

The staff is committed to work resolutely towards the realization of the vision in terms of Posts and parishes, which structures are the real highlights of the Community and indicate objectively the state of the strength of the church spiritually and materially.

The Body of Rev. Bangamba, Found

(Photo of coffin)

On Tuesday, January 24, 2012, the news came like lightning early in the morning to the General Secretariat, "the Reverend Bangamba of the parish of Iyonda, who lived at Bolenge, just disappeared!" We try to learn about the circumstances of his disappearance, but the versions differ, and the suspense continues to grow. Search was undertaken on the river and on the road to Kalamba but nothing at all was being learned.

As is usual in Africa in such circumstances, rumors of all kinds abounded. Witchcraft accusations are common. Charlatans accuse people to make money, but finally, yesterday, January 30, 2012, six days after the disappearance, the news reaches us early in the morning at the General Secretariat that the body had been found at Ikengo (more than 30 km from Mbandaka) floating on the river. Immediately a team went there with a coffin for the recovery of the body which was buried at the Bolenge missionary cemetery.

Reverend Bangamba was from the village of Bokala in the church Post of Lotumbe and received a Diploma from the Higher Institute of Theology at Bolenge. He leaves a widow and several young children. May his soul rest in peace.