

Dear Colleagues,

One of the definitions of something that is alive is that it grows – and this month, the PAACS Bulletin gives plenty of evidence that PAACS is alive and growing. We have selected 8 new trainees – and introduce five of them this month. The other three will be introduced next month. We have had a new general surgeon arrive at Galmi and introduce a new surgeon who needs your help in raising support so we can open the program in Tanzania. We have two new career surgeons who have just arrived in Africa at the end of April and we will introduce those next month.

The PAACS Bulletin is published to keep you informed but also so that you may pray intelligently. Every new thing has its complexities and we are well aware that PAACS only survives because of God's involvement. We do not want to run ahead or lag behind. There are many things in this PAACS Bulletin that need your prayers.

God is working at the PAACS affiliated mission hospitals. Come and join Him!

The Editors



The Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS)

BULLETIN #107

April 2013



“Changing the spiritual and physical health of a continent”

Our vision: PAACS trained surgeons living the gospel and ministering to the sick.

Our Mission: PAACS exists to train and disciple African surgeons to glorify God and to provide excellent, compassionate care to those most in need.

Our goal: To train and disciple 100 African surgeons by 2020.

Harold Adolph has attended his last PAACS meeting. The first PAACS Program Director, he has worked hard for over 16 years to promote PAACS

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PAACS SPRING MEETING

A hotel near the Chicago airport was the site of the Spring 2013 PAACS Commission meeting April 5 and 6. Thirteen Commissioners attended as well as four administrative staff. Joe and Kit Botana attended their first meeting; they are taking over the accounting role within the administration from Michelle “Micky” Steffes who has been handling the job since Ervin Barham resigned. Five members of the Advisory Council were present including Dr. Michael Ganey in his new role as a member of the Advisory Council. Dr. Ken Foster (ex-missionary to Afghanistan), Dr. Andrea Hayes-Jordan (pediatric surgeon), Brian Floyd (Hospital administrator), Dr. Daniel Gwan-Nulla (General surgeon), Peter Wickwire (medical student), Steve Weber (general surgeon) and Dr. Sherif Hanna (proposed faculty for Harpur Memorial Hospital) attended as guests interested in involvement with PAACS.



Rev. Stan Key, the Spiritual Dean, led each day's meeting in devotions. He used Mark chapter 6 – 8 to discuss the nature of our biggest obstacle and John 1 to describe what the clash of grace and truth looks like.

Reports were given by the Director for Africa (Dr. David Thompson who was not able to attend), the Executive Director, the Academic Dean, the Spiritual Dean and each of the Committees.

As part of his report, the Academic Dean, Bill Wood, announced that the one year follow-up report to the Loma Linda University accreditation visit has been completed and submitted. Selected Readings in General Surgery and the New England Journal of Medicine video series on clinical procedures have been made available to all PAACS personnel.

As part of his report, the Spiritual Dean, Stan Key, presented the new five-year spiritual curriculum. It will be written a year at a time and each year's notebook will contain 25 – 30 lessons and assignments. It was warmly accepted in principle and will be presented to the Program Directors at the upcoming Basic Science Conference in May at Brackenhurst International Conference Centre.

Many reports and things were discussed. Dr. Harold Adolph let it be known that this would be his last meeting with PAACS; He was warmly thanked and commended for his service to PAACS and the Lord and he was given a standing ovation. Decisions were made on required resident:faculty ratios; the Commission accepted in concept the idea of surgical sub-specialty training; the Commission expressed appreciation of the work behind the new reconstructive surgery textbook; and the decision was made to have formal oral examinations in Cameroon for the graduating residents from Mbingo and Bongolo. The Commission also confirmed that COSECSA accreditation of graduates was an expected goal and would be used as one of many parameters to judge the success of a program site. Dr. David Thompson was named Acting Program Director for the proposed program at Harpur Memorial Hospital in Menouf, Egypt. Many other issues were presented and each of the committees met to work on their areas of responsibilities.

The next meeting will be held November 1 and 2 in Chicago.

THIRD BIENNIAL BASIC SCIENCE CONFERENCE

The Third Biennial PAACS Basic Science Conference will be held May 13 – 23 at the Brackenhurst International Conference Centre in Limuru about 30 miles north of Nairobi. Twenty-one first and second year residents will attend and the majority of the PAACS Program Directors and Assistant Program Directors will be there.

Dozens of hours of lectures in anatomy, physiology, pathology, advanced trauma care and principles of surgical oncology, orthopedics and ICU care will be presented. Also, there will be workshops in surgical skills, orthopedic external fixation, dental wiring, ENT airway and tracheostomy and wound healing (by Dr. Terry



Treadwell). The surgical skill course will be held in the new Ethicon Nairobi Surgical Training Center. The evenings will be lighter in tone with special events planned for each evening. Lectures will be given by twenty-eight PAACS faculty members, PAACS Commission members and invited lecturers.

The PAACS Spiritual Dean, Rev. Stan Key, will be speaking to the group every morning during the worship hour and will also have a special program for the families of the PAACS faculty each morning of the first week.

Dr. Bruce MacFadyen, coordinator of this program, writes, "This conference is one of the most valuable things we do. It provides vital and required training for our residents but more importantly helps bond them to each other and to the organization. It is also one of the more expensive things PAACS does for the residents. If anyone feels called to help with this expense, it would be very much appreciated."

RESIDENT SELECTION

Monday, April 8, marked the opening of the annual tradition of selection of residents for Ethiopia, Gabon, Cameroon and Galmi. Eight candidates were selected from a pool of 14 qualified candidates. With the exception of the three Ethiopians, all the rest hail from a different country.

- Mbingo selected Juana Kabba (Sierra Leone), Ngwa Titus Ebogo (Cameroon) and Amon Ngongola (Zambia)
- Galmi selected Musavuli Jevenal (DRC),
- Bongolo selected Alliance Niyukuri (Burundi).
- The new Ethiopian residents are all from Ethiopia: Dereje Lemma, Ebenezer Gezahegn, and Gezahegn Tilahun.

[MedSend](#) is in the process of selecting the two that they will support. Dr. Juana Kabba will be sponsored by the Seventh Day Adventists, Dr. Amon Ngongola has alternative funding already arranged and a team of supporters has committed to fund the training of Alliance Nyikuri.

We want to introduce you to this very diverse group of new residents who must now pull up roots and by the end of July move to other countries either alone or with their families to begin training with PAACS to become general surgeons. The group from Ethiopia will be introduced next month. Here, in brief, are their stories:

- **Dr. Juana Kabba** is a single, 34 year old physician from Freetown, Sierra Leone who graduated from the University of Sierra Leone in 2009. Since then he has worked as a general practitioner at Connaught Teaching Hospital. Dr. Kabba was raised in a Christian family and wrote in his application about his early years: *"My first prayer time ever was led by mother when I was about 7 years old. There was no food and mother gathered her three children, all sons, into her bedroom, and offered a simple prayer asking God to provide us food to eat with tears in her eyes. She assured us that whenever*



we were in need, if we asked God and believed in Him, God will answer our prayers.” God provided food for the family through kind neighbors. Kabba’s own faith did not develop until he was 18 years old and began reading books by Helen White and Wesley. In 1997 while a medical student he was baptized in an Adventist church, and in 2008 traveled to the U.S. for a one-month rotation in urology at Loma Linda University.

Dr. Kabba wrote in his application, *“On completion of my training as a General Surgeon, I would like to return home and help my people by working for my church hospital. Also, I would gladly help in training junior colleagues in the medical school and the hospital, mainly through teaching. During my practice as a surgeon, I want to also go into surgical related research programs. It is my ambition to be very good at my trade and use the opportunities granted me to positively influence lives for Christ.”* During his training with PAACS Dr. Kabba will be financially supported by the SDA church and will do his training at Mbingo Baptist Hospital in Cameroon.

- **DR. Ngwa Tang “Titus” Ebogo** is a single, 31 year-old physician working as a general practitioner at Banso Baptist Hospital in Cameroon. He earned his medical degree in 2009 from the National University of Singapore, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, where he studied from 2002-2009.

Dr. Ebogo first heard about the Jesus way in 2001 through Campus for Christ and studied the New Testament for two years before making his decision to follow Christ. He wrote in his application, *“As supervisor of the Palliative Care and Coordinator of the HIV/AIDS care and treatment at Banso Baptist Hospital, I have met many terminally ill patients. My work with them is not only as a clinician but also in witnessing to them, due to my commitment to Jesus Christ. The shortage of Surgeons, the high cost of surgical consultations, and the frequency of poorly executed surgical procedures in many hospitals in Cameroon are some of my motivations to apply to the PAACS.”* Dr. Ebogo will be supported by PAACS at Mbingo Baptist Hospital in Cameroon.



- **Dr. Amon Ngongola** is a 32 year-old physician who graduated from the University of Zambia in 2008. He is married with children and is currently serving at the Chibombo District Health Office in Zambia as the Medical Officer in Charge. Dr. Ngongola wrote in his application, *“I grew up in a ‘Christian’ home where my mom took all of us to Church with her every Sunday morning. However I did not have a personal commitment to Christ until later at high school. I stopped going to Church because I felt I was not good enough for God. One afternoon in July 1997 as the Scripture Union choir was practicing a song entitled “The God of a Second Chance” I decided to surrender my life to the lordship of Jesus Christ. Jesus changed my life of guilt and self-pity and self-condemnation into acceptance and hope. My passion is to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ whenever I can and share this love that I have found. I want to become a surgeon*



because I feel surgery is a great asset, especially in the resource-poor setting where I work, and to help people and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Currently I am a general practitioner. I enjoy doing surgery and seeing the patient's satisfaction with even simple excision or hernia repairs. But I feel very limited for major emergency surgeries and have had to refer such patients, resulting at times in poor outcomes, due to time lost. After finishing general surgery training I intend to focus on serving God where my services will be needed in rural Zambia.” Dr. Ngongola will be training at Mbingo Baptist Hospital in Cameroon.

- **Dr. Juvenal Musaveli** is 33 years old physician who is married and from the DR Congo. He is currently serving as the Clinical Director of the Butaro District Hospital in Rwanda. He completed his medical studies at Goma University in the DRC in 2007. At the age of 20 he gave his life to Christ while at an evangelistic meeting hosted by the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship. He wrote in



his application, “My life completely changed because I confidently realized that I was a newborn, co-heir with Jesus. God guided me to my current church community, where in 2006 I officially presented my testimony and was baptized in January 2007. I am still serving there up to now. I've understood that Surgery is a ministry because most of the people who come to see me are in high need, sometimes without money. I want to practice my acquired knowledge helping to fix surgical conditions and caring for those in need. I want to use my knowledge to increase the surgical knowledge of those on my team, my colleagues. I want to help to implement standards, policies, and best practices where they are not used. I want to practice my field in a setting where I can share my faith in Christ with my patients and my

colleagues, and where I can freely encourage my brothers and sisters in the faith. It is my dream to someday return to DR Congo to serve. There is really great need in my country. Many people living in very poor rural conditions where there are no surgeons. I want to be able to serve these people.” Dr. Juvenal will be supported by a group of committed physicians from the U.S. and will train at SIM Galmi Hospital in Niger.

- **Dr. Alliance Niyukuri** is a 26-year-old single physician from Burundi who is currently serving at a hospital in Bujumbura, Burundi. He earned his medical degree from Hope Africa Medical University in Bujumbura, Burundi, in December 2012.

About his spiritual journey Dr. Niyukuri wrote in his application, *“I grew up mostly in Kenya as a refugee, having fled Burundi at the beginning of the civil war in 1993. After the murder of President Ndandaye, violence spread quickly in the whole country. Kibimba, where we lived was particularly hit by violence. At first my family was taken hostage by the army, wrongly accusing my father of having participated in the mass killings at Kibimba High school where he was a teacher. They took us to a concentration camp where the soldiers had assembled members of our ethnic group to “protect them.” However the soldiers threatened many times to kill my father and our family, but at each instance God intervened. Sometimes God could use a person to whom my father had told about Jesus-Christ, a soldier, or even confuse the soldiers. They would drink and forget to come get him in the evening. In the end, God used one of the soldiers who helped our family to escape from Kibimba camp. My father fled to Kenya where we joined him several months later. Growing up in these*

circumstances I was angry with God that we were living as refugees in Kenya, having lost almost everything in the war. We faced joblessness and lived exclusively on charity, sometimes having to literally beg for food and our school fees. I felt like God had forgotten our family and I could not see a future ahead of us. I did not understand how God could let this happen to us, especially after all my father had done to serve Him, both in Burundi and in Kenya. I also struggled with hatred against the people who had made us run from our country.

“On several occasions my parents would call me to the room to tell me that there was no more money, that the charity program that was giving us food had closed down, that our sponsor who was paying our school fees had run out of funds.

This was frustrating, but to my big surprise God always answered. Either my mum or dad would come back home having met a new friend who gave them money, promised school fees for some of the children, or sometimes a friend would bring a full bag of rice and beans to our home. It was just amazing how God always made sure that our family was taken care of, even in the worst of times.

“In 1998, a special Christian seminar was organized for the young Burundian, Rwandese and Congolese refugees in Kenya. On the last day of the seminar, the preacher explained that amidst all the difficulties, God loves us and cares for us, and that maybe through these difficult times, he is preparing us for a greater ministry. He talked about the story of Joseph in the bible and went on to conclude with 1John 3:16a that says, “This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.” The Lord gave me the courage to stand and recognize that I was a sinner and needed Christ. Since then, I have truly found rest in the Lord as promised in Mathew 11: 28: “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

About his medical training at Hope University, Dr. Niyukuri wrote, “It was only during my first contact with patients, through the experiences shared by our missionary trainers at Kibuye Hospital, that I understood what a medical career meant: it is more than knowing the facts, but is about love for patients, making their well-being a priority, serving in humility, and sometimes personal sacrifices. At first, I thought it was going to be very hard and stressful, but to my surprise I felt in my heart that this was what the Lord wanted me to do, and I loved and enjoyed it. There is no greater joy than to see a patient coming in barely hanging on for his life and a couple of days later to see him or her smile and say “thank you, may God bless you!” Much more encouraging are the patients who actually meet Jesus during their time in hospital, or find comfort in God during their suffering.”

Please pray for these five newly-accepted trainees, and that God would affirm and bless the four other candidates who were not chosen this year.

NEW PAACS SURGEON AT GALMI

Dr. Tabettha Hale Bradley and her husband Luke have finished two months of language school and began work March 18 at the SIM Galmi Hospital in Niger. They are participants in the World Medical Mission Post-Residency Program. Bradley did her undergraduate work at Bob Jones University, her MD was



obtained from U. of South Carolina and she trained in general surgery at Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle, WA. Luke has a mathematics degree and enjoys teaching and helping others.

Dr. Bradley writes, "I thank the Lord for bringing Luke and me here to Galmi Hospital. During my first six weeks of work as a general surgeon in Africa I practiced orthopedics, urology, pediatric surgery, obstetrics, and radiology along with "American" general surgery. It has been exciting and challenging. I can testify from personal experience that Drs. Starke and Sanoussi are excellent and patient teachers. I have enjoyed getting to know our dedicated and sincere PAACS residents and I look forward to spending the next two years teaching and learning from them."

Welcome the Bradleys to Galmi!



Dr. Tabettha Bradley holding one of her little patients.



PAACS-Niger (L to R): Yves Mpongo, Yakoubou Sanoussi, Tabettha Bradley, Simplice Tchoba (from Bongolo) and Joe Starke. Jean Lenga was on holiday.

INTRODUCING DR. DAVID HALTER

David Halter, DO, and his wife have felt the call of God to East Africa and its people for many years. They have recently been accepted as missionaries under [World Venture](#) to help PAACS open a new program in Arusha, Tanzania at the Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre.

Both are graduates of Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois. Halter received his osteopathic medicine degree at Michigan State University and trained in general surgery at the St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital, Madison Heights, Michigan. Halter is presently working as a surgeon in Lafayette, Indiana, in preparation for his time abroad.

Writing about their previous short-term mission experience, they relate how they came to believe that working with PAACS was the best fit for them:

“Based on our previous experience in Kenya, Tanzania, and Malawi, we thought that we would go to a hospital in a remote rural area with a desperate need for a surgeon. Yet I had a lingering concern that I could spend the rest of my life there and the surgical need would be the same when I was gone. That’s when God showed us PAACS and gave us a vision for training, mentoring, and discipling African surgeons who love Jesus, see themselves as missionaries and are committed to serving their own people with high quality surgical care.”

Tanzania is one of the ten poorest countries in the world with over 40% of all healthcare provided by church and mission hospitals. The Lutherans are the second largest denomination in the country with over 5 million members. They provide between 10 – 15% of the healthcare in the country.

Career missionary physician and hospital director Mark Jacobsen was instrumental in the development of Selian Hospital from a dispensary in the late 1980’s to the rural 140 bed hospital that it is now. With the opening of the modern Arusha Lutheran Medical Center (ALMC) in downtown Arusha four years ago, the Selian Hospital became a “district designated” health center. It is now partially funded by the government but still controlled by the Lutheran Church through 60% of the board seats. The PAACS training program will use both hospitals.



Dave Halter, Sarah Halter, Daniel Halter (3 years old), and Micah (5 months old).



(L to R) Dr. Frank Madinda, Dr. David Halter (holding Daniel), Dr. Limbe (potential PAACS resident), and Dr. Paul Kisanga. Madinda is going to be the Program Director at Arusha and Kisanga a valued faculty member.

The ALMC is comparable to a small community hospital in the States with some limitations consistent with its location in Africa. They are presently training 10 government interns and 20 Assistant Medical Officers (AMOs). AMOs are an educational level which is unique to Tanzania. Experienced Clinical Officers (analogous to Physician Assistants in the US) are given two years more training and then given a doctorate.

“As we considered various PAACS hospitals and where to serve, we were increasingly drawn to Arusha Lutheran Medical Center (ALMC) and Selian Lutheran Hospital, sister hospitals in Arusha, Tanzania. When we first heard about the possibility of a program in Arusha, we both felt God

move in our hearts. As we were fasting with our church during Lent and asking God for direction about our future work, Bruce Steffes asked if I would consider working at the proposed program there. As we spoke more with Bruce and with Mark Jacobson, MD (Director of ALMC), it seemed clear to us that God was leading us to Tanzania.

“Our family visited in 2012 and God confirmed our call to Tanzania. We learned first-hand about the hospital's vision and mission and discovered that some of the things on the surface which drew us there are reflections of a deeper philosophy that resonates with us. It was significant to us that there are three Tanzanian surgeons already working there. The hospital is built on a foundation of African theology and shared what it looks like for the gospel to be relevant in that cultural context.”

Frank Madinda, MD and Paul Kisanga, MD are general surgeons who are working there at ALMC. Also Catherine Mung'ong'o, who trained for two years with BethanyKids at Kijabe Hospital is working there as a pediatric surgeon. Madinda is a Tanzanian who trained in Zimbabwe and helped run a COSECSA training program at UNDP/UNV at Kamuzu Central Hospital, Lilongwe, Malawi. He joined ALMC in 2011. He has recently become a COSECSA fellow. Dr. Paul Kisanga trained at the University of Nairobi under, among other people, Professor Pankaj Jani and he has been at ALMC for several years. A short-term missionary under World Medical Mission, Dr. Wendy Willmore, is seriously considering going to Arusha in time to open the program in January 2014 and will serve at least until the Halters arrive.

Since the Halters are starting the training and partnership development process with World Venture, they also need to raise funds. They are hoping to be fully-funded and in Tanzania within 18 months but are praying that it will be quicker. Please consider whether you, your friends or your church might be able to help support the Halters. If you can help or have any questions, please e-mail drhalter841@yahoo.com.

NEWS SHORTS:

- **Mbingo Team Meets with Government Officials:** A team from Mbingo Baptist Hospital met April 25 with the Prime Minister of Cameroon, Mr. Philemon Yang. Professor Pius Tih, Dr. Dennis Palmer and Dr. Jim Brown met with him to discuss the accreditation of the internal medicine and PAACS surgical programs. The application was originally submitted to the Ministry of Higher Education four years ago but no action upon the request had been forthcoming. The Prime Minister was in support of the application and with his assistance, a subsequent meeting with a vice-dean at the University of Yaoundé, Dr. Njamnshi, was held the next day to forge an affiliation with the university. The team from Mbingo was told that once an acceptable memorandum of understanding was completed, there should be no more hurdles to the full accreditation of the Mbingo Hospital programs. Dr. Njamnshi will lead a team to Mbingo within the next few weeks to review the training programs. While in Yaoundé, Drs. Palmer and Brown met with the Deputy Chief of Mission, Greg Thome, and the PEPFAR Coordinator for Cameroon, Catherine Anjeh, at the American embassy. They looked favorably upon what was being done at Mbingo and promised to mention it in their diplomatic interactions with the Minister of Higher Education. Palmer also used this opportunity to seek their advocacy for the USAID application for building a hydroelectric plant at Mbingo. The team returned to Mbingo encouraged.

- Kijabe Cut Off by Landslides:** A [report from the CURE Hospital](#) reports that heavy rains this past weekend have effectively cut off the roads into and leaving Kijabe, especially via the upper road. The Kijabe Mission Station which includes Kijabe Hospital, CURE-Kenya Hospital and the Rift Valley Academy is located on the edge of the Great Rift Valley, down the slope from the town of Kijabe. Peter Kyalo, the CURE-Kenya Executive Director is quoted as writing, "Kijabe is now completely cut off and one cannot access it from the upper road. The railway tunnel has been buried and the railway tracks washed away. The RVA gate was completely washed away and the petrol station flooded. Trees were uprooted from the forest by the rain and washed to Kijabe." Early reports are that the station is structurally sound, but the website states that Kenyan media is reporting that there were 3 fatalities further up the hill where the landslide was more devastating. An e-mail was received April 29 from Dr. Jack Barasa, PAACS faculty, stating that the road had been cleared and "things are back to normal." He stated that allegedly a dam had burst.



- CMDA Receives 4 Stars from Charity Navigator:** The Christian Medical and Dental Associations, parent organization of PAACS, has received the highest ranking from Charity Navigator – 4 stars in both the "financial" category and the "Accountability and Transparency" category with a total score of 63.41 out of 70. The report can be viewed at: (<http://www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=3505>). On its website, it states: "Charity Navigator, America's leading independent charity evaluator, works to advance a more efficient and responsive philanthropic marketplace by evaluating the Financial Health and Accountability and Transparency of 6,000 of America's largest charities." Only 1729 of the 6,000 rated charities (and the 1.6 million charities registered with the IRS) have earned the four-star rating awarded to CMDA. Congratulations!
- Book by PAACS Founder Available:** David Thompson's latest book, "Christian Mercy" is now available for Kindle on [Amazon.com](#). Soon, the printed copies will be available on that same site. The product of five years of research, thought and multiple rewrites, this 4th book by Thompson is based on the premise that Jesus loved the poor, had compassion for the sick and the hungry, preached the Good News to all who would listen, and delivered those who were spiritually

oppressed. But his model and teachings differ radically from the humanitarian model and what a growing number of churches are doing in their efforts to help suffering people.

Thompson goes on to write, "More and more Christians in America and Europe are either following humanitarian teaching or are returning to a model of compassion that in the early 1900's came to be known as the "Social Gospel." What few of them understand is that when Christians stop proclaiming the gospel to those they help, God's power and presence fades from their work. The long-term consequences of the Social Gospel to the Church's compassion ministries 100 years ago were devastating. Churches that rejected the Social Gospel focused on preaching the gospel and withdrew from most compassion ministries for nearly a century, and churches that embraced the Social Gospel lost their zeal for world missions, failed to attract new recruits to replace those who retired, and abandoned most of their ministries to the poor.

"This is why I wrote CHRISTIAN MERCY and why I believe it is a message that the Church urgently needs to hear. Those of us in Christendom who serve in compassion ministries must avoid the catastrophic mistakes that Christians made 100 years ago. I wrote this book and its stories from my heart and from my 35 years of experience as a surgeon for the poor in Africa. It relates what God taught me from his Word, through my experiences, and from my mistakes."

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Reminder – Free Textbook** is available – The new PAACS textbook "Principles of Reconstructive Surgery in Africa" is available for free download at <http://paacs.net/involved/paacs-resources/paacs-reconstructive-surgery-text/>. Please sign in and give us some basic demographics before you download it.
- **Mellinger Named Recipient of Endowed Chair:** John D. Mellinger, MD, Professor at Southern Illinois University in Springfield, IL, was named as the recipient of the J. Roland Folse, MD Endowed Chair in Surgery. The investiture was held March 28, 2013. Mellinger has a long history of active involvement with PAACS, serving both as a Commissioner and on the Advisory Council. Mellinger has expressed his desire that this endowment be used to promote the concept of global surgery that PAACS espouses.
- **Home Assignments:** The following PAACS surgeons are on home assignment presently or will be soon. Please pray for them.
 - **Erik Hansen** – March 24 – Aug 24, 2013
 - **Jon Pollock** – April – July, 2013
 - **Rich Davis** – April – August, 2013
 - **Duane Anderson** – May 5 – 20, 2013
- **Grandchild** – Mark Karnes and his wife, Allison, took a quick trip to Johannesburg to help out with their newest grandson. Their 4th grandson, Michael Luke Forget, was born on March 25 by caesarean section. He weighed 2.9 kg. His parents are Miriam and Christoph Forget



Mark and Allison Karnes with their grandchildren in South Africa

- Yaradouno Baby:** Jean Faya Yaradouno and his wife, Jacqueline, are the proud parents of a new son, Godwin Saa Paul Yaradouno. He was born at home on April 7 and weighed 3.5 kg. They have two girls already, Cecile Sia and Grace Koumba. Congratulations to the Yaradouns. Yaradouno is a 2010 PAACS graduate and works at the Centre Medical Esperance de N'zao (Hope Clinic), a MCA Mission Hospital, in N'zao, Guinea.



Left: Jean Faya Bomde Yaradouno and his wife Jacqueline hold young Saa.
Right: Godwin Saa Paul Yaradouno

- Help Still Needed at Banso Hospital:** Professor Tih has asked for assistance in identifying a general surgeon to help cover Banso Baptist Hospital between June 16 and August 15 when Dr. Yali will be on extended leave and Dr. Ngock will be there alone. Both are PAACS graduates and Banso was a previous site of PAACS training. Two time slots are still without coverage: July 1-15

NS July 29-Sep 15.If you might be willing to serve at Banso Hospital during this time to help our graduates and the hospital, please communicate with either Professor Tih (piustih@cbchealthservices.org) or Jim Brown (Jimbrownjab@aol.com) directly. World Medical Missions does not have an agreement with this hospital.

- **Grant Application In:** Dr. John Pierce, Jr., who has taken leadership of the Ob-Gyn task force, has applied for a \$250,000 seed grant from “Saving Lives at Birth” - a creation of the Gates Foundation. It is cosponsored by USAID and a few other organizations. The proposal is to cover the development and implement a 25 topic curriculum designed to improve ob-gyn care in the developing nations. PAACS and In His Images are co-investigators and will benefit from this material.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- The PAACS Basic Science Conference will be held in Kenya May 13 – 23. Pray for traveling safety, for unity and for a time of great blessing.
- Praise God for His hand on the recent PAACS Commission meeting. Pray for those who are considering a role on the Advisory Council or the Commission. Pray that the decisions that were made will be implemented with grace and peace.
- Praise God that the David Hardin family is in Soddo, Ethiopia) and the Paul Espy family is in Tenwek. Pray that their anxieties, insecurities and concerns will be put to rest; that their needs will be met and that they will follow the Lord’s call on their life.
- Pray for the David Halter family (headed to Arusha, Tanzania). Pray that God will provide them a team of prayer and financial partners and that they will be prepared in record time.
- Pray for God’s clear leading for the Andrew Chew family (still waiting on God) as they seek to prepare for their moves to Africa.
- Pray for Dr. Wendy Willmore and the whole team at Arusha as they seek God’s guidance in what to do at the present time regarding the opening of a program in January.
- Pray that God will call additional career surgeons to join the PAACS faculties at Kijabe Hospital in Kenya, Soddo Christian Hospital in Ethiopia, and Mbingo Baptist Hospital in Cameroon.
- Pray that God will call a second pediatric surgeon to join Dr. Eric Hansen at Bethany Kids, Kijabe, Kenya. The program urgently needs two surgeons to continue training its fellows. Pray for Dr. Erik Hansen while he is on home assignment and praise God that he has been able to obtain (through you) adequate coverage during his absence.
- Pray for those who are on furlough (home assignment), returning from furlough or about to go. Pray that they will get rest and rejuvenation and when possible will spread the word about what is being accomplished in Africa.
- Praise God for the completion of the resident selection process. Pray for these young men and their families as they prepare to move, sometimes across several countries, and as they face the

uncertainty of this new experience. Pray for their wives and families who must adjust to the new culture. Pray that they will have the funding needed to move and to buy visas.

- Pray that both Mbingo Baptist Hospital and Bongolo Hospital will receive the government recognition that they seek.
- Pray for the oral examinations that are coming up in Cameroon in July – that all the details will come together and that the trainees will acquit themselves honorably.
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Editors:

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