

**Bob, Dawn and Elizabeth Baird – ACM International in Bukavu, DR Congo**  
**Tuesday, March 15, 2011**

**WOW:** Thanks to all who have given to “Just Once” thus far. The total, divided by 12 months, now gives us close to another \$400.00/mo. God is very good, as are all of you who have prayed, and hoped, and encouraged and given. We pray God blesses you as well as his work in Congo.

**FINALLY:** After 8 days for me and 6 for EB of cold, flu and upper respiratory infections, we are beginning to get well. Z-packs, steroid nasal spray, as much rest as possible here at Greg and Julie Bradley’s (and prayer) seem to be working. I still had a fever yesterday, but none today!

**PACKING:** You can imagine how far behind we are in packing. I admit, it makes me feel frantic no matter how many times I recite Psalm 23 and Philippians 4. Bob is at our house now, packing up the office and rearranging the basement so Patti, our daughter-in-law, will have room to store her things. Tomorrow, Wednesday, EB will stay with Bradley’s to keep resting, while Bob and I return to our house to pack. I estimate approx. 12 trunks / bags since we are not sending an air freight shipment.

**FINANCES:** Since Bob is not here, this will not be a full financial report. I do know that we still need approx. \$2,000.00 monthly support, \$10,000.00—vehicle and \$200.00—generator. While we had saved for our tickets, visas, shots, anti-malarials, permanent visas, and travel expenses, we have been surprised by how the cost has risen for taking extra luggage on the plane.

The cost of our tickets was right on and we are able to fly directly to Kigali instead of having an exhausting 2<sup>nd</sup> lay-over in Nairobi, Kenya. But, instead of two free cases per person, we get only 1 free with the 2<sup>nd</sup> piece per person at \$55.00 each; after that its \$200.00 for each piece. And, any piece weighing over 50 lbs up to 70 lbs adds another \$150.00. If we take the 12 bags we need, the additional cost will be \$1,815.00. We have decided to use what we saved for permanent visas and as the replacement funds come, our forwarding agents will wire it to us with our monthly support in April.

**SCHEDULE:** On **Thursday** we are driving to Bloomington to buy a shower head and hose that attaches to a tub faucet. Thanks to Ed and Brenda (our Congo colleagues) we are aware of these sorts of needs for our home in Bukavu. We are also buying several things for them. **Friday** will be 3 appointments: eye, hair, and chiropractor and, hopefully, the rest of the packing. **Saturday** should be time with family and friends (unless we are not finished packing), and **Sunday** we will worship at Jefferson Street Christian Church. **Monday morning, 3/21**, Mark, Rachel, Alexander, Olivia, Kenneth and Ivan will drive us to O’Hare for a 5: 15pm departure. We fly from Chicago to Amsterdam to Kigali, Rwanda, arriving at 9:25pm on 3/22. We will overnight and drive to Bukavu, Congo the next day arriving late afternoon on 3/23. **Please do pray us all the way through every drive, flight, lay-over, customs and immigration.**

For the Lion of the Tribe of Judah,

*Bob, Dawn and Elizabeth Baird*