

# ***THE WARNOCKS' ESCAPADES***

Our Home Page: <http://home.comcast.net/~twcwmissions>

## **UMCOR Health & Ted in the Democratic Republic of the Congo 2011**

Ted's Advance # 13030Z

Ted's E-Mail: [missionsted@gmail.com](mailto:missionsted@gmail.com)

Carla's Advance # 13031Z

Carla's E-Mail: [carlanursemgr@gmail.com](mailto:carlanursemgr@gmail.com)

February 2011 began with an extended visit to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) where Health Board training and strategic plan updates were the priority. In between lectures and reports, it was determined that music and dance would serve to keep everyone awake and focused. Who was I to argue? Throughout the training, this became a regular occurrence. The Joint Health Board of the DRC is a highly articulate group composed of doctors and professionals dedicated to serving the healthcare needs of people in the DRC. Following the training, Dr. Cherian Thomas and myself visited hospitals and clinics within the DRC.



Within the DRC, the United Methodist Church has oversight over 8 hospitals and 180 clinics and posts. Many of these facilities are so remote that the only reasonable access is by the small aircraft operated by gifted United Methodist Missionaries who fly these planes to the sites and land on what we would never call a runway.

who was flown to be will be treated in a larger facility. For us, it was a chance to see one more act of kindness and the on-going daily mission that Wings of Caring and Wings of Morning provides across the DRC.



To the right, is a child with severe a Club Foot



The Tunda Hospital is in remote DRC (1 ½ hour flight) The only healthcare facility for the region and lacking nearly every level of infrastructure, the hospital operates a maternity ward and performs surgery with solar powered lighting. They are an example of efficient leadership with the roles and responsibilities of each station posted on the door leading to their respective area. Budgets and reports are posted on the hospital treasurer's walls, and this year's minimal surplus was used to dig a bore hole (well) in front of the hospital. While we seek the funds to help with a

pump and cistern, the Doctor administrator (and board member) makes and day long trip (once a month) to e-mail us his facilities reports and progress.

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The entire community at Minga in the DRC greeted us and led us to their hospital.

**UMCOR Health in East Africa will be the focus next.**