

— MISSIONARIES —



Africa

- Eudo Rodriguez
- Cape Verde Islands

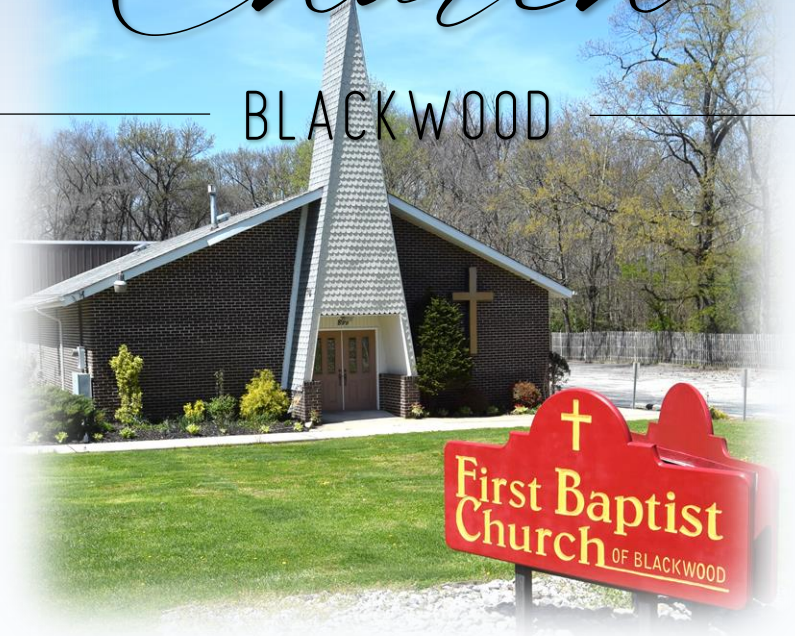
Persecuted Christian

- DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC) - Children of Martyred Missionaries in Danger

- Islamic militant groups have declared parts of eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) under Islamic law & militias have kidnapped, enslaved or killed Christians. In October 2014, Islamists attacked a town where Pastor Kanyamanda & his wife, Odette, served as local Christian missionaries to a remote tribe. The militants killed 19 people in the neighboring town, then traveled to Kanyamanda's & Odette's village. There they tricked Pastor Kanyamanda into leaving his home, killed him, & then went inside to kill Odette. Odette had hidden their children before she was taken, & all four of their children survived. Fourteen additional villagers, mostly members of the couple's church, were also murdered in that attack. VOM has helped provide for the surviving children & their adult caregivers, but they live in an area that still experiences occasional militia violence.
- While the DRC is one of Africa's largest countries geographically with a Christian-majority population, Islamists groups severely persecute Christians along the DRC's eastern border. One of the principal persecutors is the Islamist Allied Democratic Forces (ADF). The ADF is active in the Rwenzori Mountain area & seeks to establish Islamic law throughout the region. When rebels capture groups of people, they often release Muslims while killing Christians who refuse to convert. There are more than 100 other armed groups operating in the DRC who also target Christians.
- Major religion: 90% Christian, with 5% ethnic religions.
- The church is under immense pressure in the eastern DRC. In areas controlled by the ADF, Christian villages have been raided, churches destroyed & hundreds of believers brutally killed. Dozens of local Christians have been abducted by the ADF & told to recant their faith in Christ & convert to Islam. Those abducted have witnessed horrific acts of violence against fellow Christians. Prior to the outbreak of violence, one church denomination had 25 churches in the Beni area; today they have eight. Another denomination had 54 churches & now has 11. Other denominations report similar patterns.
- Bibles are available in cities but not in rural areas. Children's Bibles & Bibles in Swahili are highly desired.
- Please pray for Grace, who was abducted & watched her family members murdered by Islamists. SHARE PRAYER
- Pray for pastors whose church buildings have been destroyed by Islamists.
- Pray for the children of two local missionaries who were martyred.
- Pray for the nearly 2,000 internally displaced believers who fled widespread Islamist attacks.
- Pray for Matendo, who suffered a head injury while fleeing from Islamists.

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FIRST BAPTIST Church BLACKWOOD



PASTOR DAVE MCMURRAY

Every Member, a Minister

SUNDAYS

9:15AM...Discipleship Class
10:15AM...Worship

WEDNESDAYS

7:00PM...Adult Bible Study & Prayer
7:00PM...Youth Gathering

- PO Box 254 -
899 LITTLE GLOUCESTER ROAD
BLACKWOOD, NJ 08012

856-761-2968 | www.fbcblackwood.org