

## A Mill for Prosperity!

Thanks to the wonderful generosity of Riannon & Jeremy Zorn, the women's cooperative of Munene village (near Uvira, S. Kivu) will be getting a mill & generator to run it!

The new farm has transformed their lives, & their husbands or sons have become involved in helping (not typical). In our Jan. newsletter you saw photos of their first harvest; the second planting is done. The women usually make flour from the cured cassava by pounding it, but that wastes some of the product; a mill is more efficient.

So they asked for assistance for a mill & generator to run it, promising to build & maintain a shelter; they have begun making sundried bricks, with the men's help. Besides processing their own harvest, the mill will enable the women to provide a service to others in their village & earn a bit of money for the mill's maintenance.

### WHAT an EXCITING TIME!

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## THANKS AND CHALLENGE FROM CCS

Thank you so much to those who have generously responded to our appeal for the Community Charity School in Goma! We are gradually gathering funds to find a new & safer home for it. Step 1 is \$6000 to buy a piece of land; thank you for \$1685!

Some wonderful new friends have found us!

**Princeton University's Colonial Club, led by DEI officer Meron Hagos**, discovered Woman, Cradle of Abundance, & delighted us with their enthusiasm for our Congo partners. They also held a hilarious Easter egg eating contest as a fundraiser; thank you for your generosity to our little Goma school!

**DARE for CHANGE:** Community Middle School & High School North (Plainsboro, NJ) are sponsoring a fabulous fundraiser for CCS this month.

<https://sites.google.com/wwwprsd.org/dareforchange/home>

PLEASE continue to keep this school in your good will.

## Graduation!



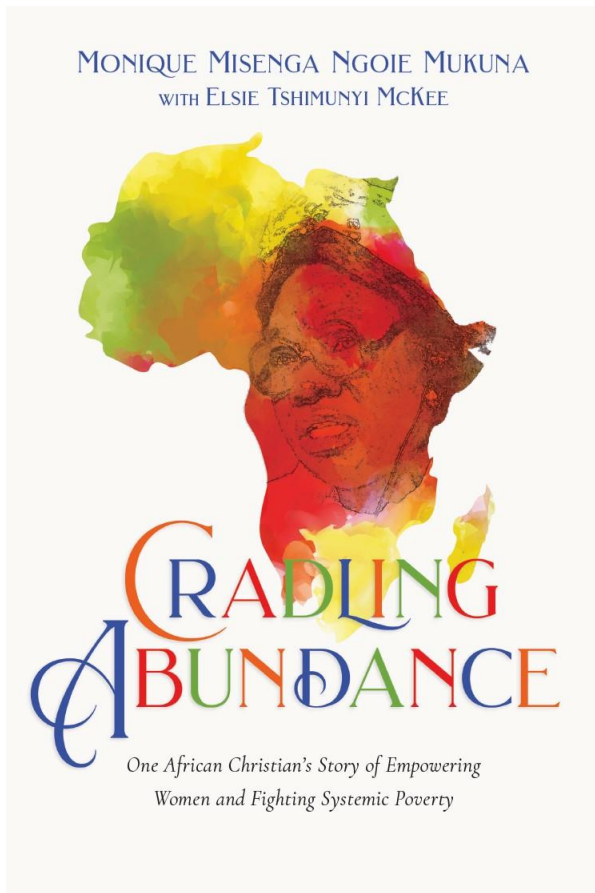
So many delays of hopes, yet the sewing school has persevered. The class of 2020 finally received their certificates & sewing machines, amid great rejoicing (though a small audience because of COVID). To the left is the state representative who happily presented the certificates. FEBA always comes out high in the national exams.



Teachers presided, including Maman Monique just prior to back surgery. This was successful, to the joy of all, though recovery continues.



## Maman Monique's Book!



<https://www.ivpress.com/cradling-abundance>

This biography of a remarkable woman, a remarkable place, remarkable people, is all set against a shifting political system of Western Africa. Part suspect novel intertwined with a history lesson, it reads like intimate letter from a precious friend all sewn together with resilience that comes from faith. Like Jollof rice, there is a little bit of everything – but so delicious that you just cannot stop gulping it down. From the incredible opening scene where this defiant young woman armed only with her intellect and courage manages gun toting military thugs until the final chapter, the reader is treated to a masterfully told encounter with another culture and continent.

I just want to know who is the actor will play Maman Monique when the movie is made.

The Rev. Susan Brasier, J.D., M.Div.  
PC(USA) pastor

## POLITICS, PAIN & ECONOMICS

Good news, bad news, & big hearts!

There is good news on the national front: President Tshisekedi's new government has just been installed, with concerted attention to reforming corruption. As the new ministers begin work & the many people who have not been paid for a long time begin to receive back pay, we hope & trust that the economy will also experience renewal. Imagine having markets functioning & people able to buy food & other necessities!!!

Meanwhile, the physical weather has been part of the challenge. "Pain" here includes the devastation of torrential rains as well as the effects of years-long economic depression. In March the floods in Kinshasa washed away people & homes; one family lost four children at once. Maman Monique took in two families who had lost everything; trying to feed & reclothe so many has meant that the cupboard has often been nearly bare.

In eastern Congo, around Uvira, the flood destruction has also been severe. Violence goes up & down in this region, but is especially severe in Goma, where Community Charity School is.

Struggling with hunger, flood & homelessness, sickness & deaths of those they love...

But our partners DO NOT GIVE UP!!!

They are amazing!

**HELP US HELP THEM HELP OTHERS!**

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## CONTRIBUTE OR GET INVOLVED

Contribute: Donate securely via PayPal at [www.WomanCradleofAbundance.org/donate](http://www.WomanCradleofAbundance.org/donate) or on FEBA, Inc., on Facebook.

Please designate "Sewing School" or "Goma School" or "Women's Center Orphans" or "Farm Needs," or "Sustaining Gift" to support ongoing work.

Checks payable to Woman, Cradle of Abundance can be mailed to the following address:

Woman, Cradle of Abundance  
attn: John McGlaughlin, Treasurer  
9 Lytle St.  
Princeton, NJ 08540

Volunteer: Contact Cheryl Ciaranca, Community Outreach Coordinator, at [cciaranca@gmail.com](mailto:cciaranca@gmail.com) or 215.292.3290 to discuss ways to partner with Woman Cradle of Abundance.