

# Christmas

## Christ in us - the wings of glory

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*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the **“new creation”** has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.” 2 Cor. 5 : 15-16*

The ministry of a court hall or prison chaplain is a **hidden or undercover ministry** that will rarely reach the headlines of any TV, internet or newspaper coverage. Yet God in His sovereignty in the most unexpected way assures me the hidden labor is not in vain. **July 4, 2015** while building our backyard waterfall, surprisingly a **miracle monarch butterfly** dropped by to pay me **20 minute visit 2 feet away!** In my heart this butterfly’s presence rang out to me in those priceless moments.

*“I just dropped by to say hello and show you my new wings! I shed that old cocoon body for these amazing wings. Thank you that day in that lonely cell /court hall chair you gave me new wings of hope in Christ.”*

It was a **moment of shock** for it wasn’t just a visitation for me, but for a **host of our other volunteers /supporters.** So many have faithfully given of their personal time to share with those who are weary of sin, worn in spirit, wayward in direction, and worried of consequences.

**Our Christmas breakfast December 8<sup>th</sup>** at our home brought half of our volunteers together despite all the heavy rain.

**These names below were a blessing to BTGM.**

**Estella Holiday  
Nancy Burgher  
Carolyn Bishop  
Jenny Parsley  
Cheryl Burkett  
Taylor Davis  
Patti Scott**

**Brendan Spaar “story”**

**Bob Ashman  
Clay Massey  
Daniel Flagg  
Matt Davis**

**Patrick Batubenge \*back story**

**Van Walesa  
Emmanuel Kubandi  
Travis Nelson  
Allana Bennett**

### TRANSFORMATION

A **“new creation”** is a massive word – **“the old has gone the new is here!”**

**Enclosed in this month newsletter** is a synopsis flyer to follow up for new believers. From the **Trinity Form** – God the Father, Son and, Holy Spirit, our lives were preordained in His book to be executed and rendered on earth.

From our **physical birth** (-10) **“ignorance, ignoring, anger, denial, rebellion, conviction, to repentance.”** to **spiritual birth** (-1), God is at work in every person on earth. Through **CRISIS situations**, He is seeking to reveal to each person their **TOTAL dependency** on Christ.

After **spiritual birth** (+1) **“ignorance, ignoring, anger, denial, rebellion, conviction, to repentance.”** to **spiritual maturity** (+10).

Through **CRISIS situations** He continues purify us into his image before we see Him face to face.



## CHRISTMAS “PRESENCE” OF A COURT HALL MINISTRY INTRODUCED TO THE COUNTRY OF CONGO



My name is Patrick Batubenge. I am a native of the **Democratic Republic of Congo** in Central Africa. I attended college in Mons, Belgium and graduated with a Bachelor’s in Economics and a master’s in Small Business Administration with a minor in Finance in 1994. Because of civil unrest in my country I decided to immigrate to the United States in 1995. Upon arrival in New York city, my language barrier forced me to work in fast food restaurants to make ends meet. I decided to learn English and returned to school where I graduated with a MBA from Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas.

In 2002 I was licensed to preach the Gospel and started serving as prison chaplain. In 2010, I accepted the call of the Lord to go and serve the people of the Congo and founded Mission Outreach to Africa.

In 2017, I met David Burgher who introduced to me Bridge the Gap Ministry. At that time **the Lord planted a seed in me and I started to develop interest for the ministry** and finally, the Lord spoke to David who asked me if I was available to represent the ministry in the Democratic Republic of Congo. **I willingly accepted the challenge.**

## CHRISTMAS “PRESENCE” IN TECHANICAL SUPPORT FOR BRIDGE THE GAP MINISTRIES



I was arrested in 2012 for charges that were later dismissed. As a result of my arrest, I lost my job and most of my friends. Luckily, I had the resources to make bail and hire an attorney to defend me.

I had hired Josh before and always admired the light and joy that radiated from him as he worked. Seeing that Josh was content with his life and I was not, I asked him to share his secret with me. Josh said that he trusted in the Lord to be his Sheppard and invited me to Easter Sunday service to experience His love for myself. It was then that I decided to live a deliberate, faith-inspired life.

What happened next was two long years of silence from the courts. **During this time, I found work but more importantly, I found my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.** It was the spring of 2013 and a handy-man named Josh was doing some work on my home.

I am proud to provide technical support for Bridge the Gap Ministries because, like Josh, they served as a light that radiates to men and women who are shrouded in the darkness of the justice system.

*Brendan Spaar*

### GOD’S AMAZING GRACE TO REJOICE IN NOVEMBER 2018

**Adrian Young**

**Tia Young**

**Scott Cannella**

**Alexus Theophille**

**Fernando Zuinaga**

**Leonel Sanchez**

**Robert Mai**

**Dorian Williams**

**Jennifer Reyes**

**Jackson Ngoyen**

**Giselle Reye**

**Tyona Mullias**

THANK YOU SINCERELY FOR PRAYING FOR THESE NAMES IN THEIR NEW FOUND FAITH IN CHRIST. Their spiritual life has just begun !