



The

# Open heart

A Newsletter By carol & Tim Crawford

*I shall run the way of Your commandments, for You will enlarge my heart. – Psalm 119:32 (NASV)*

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## Destination Angola!!

The time has finally come!! After what has seemed like an eternity during these past few months we are finally on our way to Angola. We received official word on December 4<sup>th</sup> that immigration officials in Luanda had authorized our work visas for Angola.

As many of you realize, the “plan” was for us to leave around July 20<sup>th</sup> so that Carol could teach a full semester at the Quéssua (pronounced KES-oo-ah) School of Theology. The first glitch came in late June when we found that there were additional requirements for our visa applications to be considered complete. It was early August before we received the “completed”, processed applications back. We forwarded the applications to Bishop Quipungo (pronounced Kee-POON-go) for submission to Angolan immigration in Luanda, Angola’s capitol. Unofficial word came back in late August that the visas were approved and that we could report to Angola’s embassy in Washington, DC within a week to pick up the visas.

We have experienced many anxious and frustrating moments during our wait, but we trust that all of this waiting has been in God’s good timing. The delay provided us the opportunity to help our daughter, Hannah, move to college and provide support during those challenging first weeks at college. We’ve spent more time than anybody “bargained for” with our daughter, Abby, and her husband, Mike Dobie, in Nicholasville, Kentucky, and visiting family in Alabama but that time, too, has been rich. We have also had the opportunity to learn more about Angola and specifically about Quéssua Mission through communications with various individuals and use of the internet. Every day of waiting has been beneficial in some way to better prepare us for our departure from the U.S. and our new life in Angola.

Progress has been occurring in Angola during this time, too. A dormitory for teenage orphans has been completed. The Theology School building that many of you saw without windows and a roof in our brochure, now has a roof and is in the finishing stages. God is doing mighty things in Quéssua and we are excited to join that Kingdom work that shares the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout eastern Angola.



Quéssua School of Theology nears completion

## **Obrigado! Vehicle Fund Grows**

“Obrigado” means “thank you” in Portuguese and we need to add “muito”, or “many thanks”, for all that have given sacrificially to help purchase a vehicle upon our arrival in Angola. We are getting close to reaching the goal of \$50,000 for our transportation needs.

We don't have space here to list the individuals and churches that gave to provide transportation so that we can move people and supplies in and out of Quéssua. We stood in faith believing that God's people could provide for a vehicle but we were still amazed at how God touched hearts to get this fund established so quickly.

If you or your church would like to help complete the vehicle fund you may send gifts to:

General Board of Global Ministries  
c/o Mr. Edwin Francisco, Asst. Treas.  
475 Riverside Drive, Room 1410  
New York, NY 10115

Please include the notation “vehicle for Carol & Tim Crawford in Angola” on your check, and include a cover letter stating the same. Gifts to the General Board of Global Ministries are tax deductible.

We also want to thank those that have enabled us to be better prepared with equipment and resources that will be needed in Angola.

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Communications**

Waiting on our visas has given us time to work on some new skills that we hope will keep us better connected with all of you. Never before have we stepped out so deep into the sea of internet technology.

We started a blog in September which we hope to keep updated on a regular basis. The address for the blog is <http://caroltimcrawford.blogspot.com>. Don't expect us to do daily updates but you can try looking once a week or every couple of

weeks to see if we've posted anything new. We'll also post up pictures as we get them.

We also worked during September on a good informational web site that currently gives basic info about Quéssua Mission and related projects for the East Angola Conference of the United Methodist Church. You'll find photos accompanying the text mostly provided by our new friends from Florida Conference, Rev. Armando and Icel Rodriguez, on these pages as well as a map and location information. The Quéssua Mission site is now posted through the free web space provided by the General Board of Global Ministries –

[www.gb-gm-umc.org/quessuamission/](http://www.gb-gm-umc.org/quessuamission/).

We have been getting out some updates regarding our departure through e-mail. If you haven't been receiving those and would like for us to put you on our e-mail distribution list, send us your address at [chatcrawford@aol.com](mailto:chatcrawford@aol.com). In an effort to reduce costs we also hope to send out this newsletter as a pdf attachment via e-mail to those that prefer an electronic letter, or begin posting them online and inform folks via e-mail when a new letter is posted. Let us know if you would prefer an electronic newsletter so that we can remove your address from our paper newsletter mailing list.

### **Pause for Prayer**

- New relationships
- Needs of the students at Quéssua
- Carol's first classes
- Purchase and set up of furniture and appliances in our home
- Start up of agricultural projects

### **Contact Information**

Carol & Tim Crawford  
Igreja Metodista Unida de Angola  
C.P. 9  
Malanje, Angola  
[chatcrawford@aol.com](mailto:chatcrawford@aol.com)  
[cdcangola@aol.com](mailto:cdcangola@aol.com)