

RUFFUPDATE

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ALVIN & LINDA'S VISIT - BALLOONS FOR BILISKURA

We visited Isaac & Comfort and attended the church that meets at their house and made a surprise visit to the village next to our house where they made balloon figures & played with the kids.

Alvin & Linda have been praying for Isaac & Comfort & their family for many years now and when they met them face to face it was a real treat for both parties. It speaks volumes for Isaac and Comfort to meet some of the hundreds of people from the US who have been praying for them through good times and bad. But also Alvin and Linda got to physically touch and encourage someone to this point they have known from a distance. Isaac is doing wonderfully well and is currently helping us train church planters in Bole, one of the Gonja districts in Ghana.

Also since building the Permaculture center just outside of Buipe we have enjoyed building relationships with the neighboring village called Bilisikura. Mission teams, interns, friends and partners have loved on this village in so many practical ways. With the help of

these teams our Buipe team has helped the village in practical ways like sanitation, clean water solutions, farming, prayer walks and evangelism that have resulted in several conversions and a church planted among the unreached Chokossi tribe. With the help of Alvin and Linda the village has now been loved on with balloons. Linda is a certified clown and made many balloon figures and gave them to the children. Alvin had a blast playing balloon games with some of the older children. Check out the video we have posted on [Youtube](#) and the [Balloons for Bilisikura](#) gallery on our website.

We thank God for all of our partners who through their prayers, finances and visits are making a difference in the lives of many villages in Ghana and surrounding countries. May God be glorified!

Terry



A balloon can really be a treat. This little girl was very excited to receive her balloon. Kid's lined up to receive their balloon creation and created balloon games.

You Just Never Know...

"The Lord's loyal kindness never ceases; His compassions never end. They are fresh every morning; Your faithfulness is abundant! "My portion is the Lord," I have said to myself, so I will put my hope in him."

Lamentations 3:22-24

You just never know when you wake up each day what the day will bring. There is a plan. There are expectations, but what unfolds is much different than the plan, almost always. I tell people who visit, there is always a plan B, C, D, E or F... From our first weeks in Ghana our friends coined the phrase "T.I.A.- This is Africa." How true. In one day this past month, I had a plan. I was to drive to Tamale from Buipe an hour and a half drive, to renew expired insurance on the van and return. What happened was totally different. I was able to get the insurance, renew the roadworthy sticker and then everything fell apart. I was ready to head back to Buipe and I got back in the van, the key broke off in the ignition. After waiting for the locksmith to tear it apart, repair it, make a new key and reinstall it the van started making noises and Terry told me to take it to the mechanic. After a couple of hours of work, it was determined that it would not be ready to drive back to Buipe before dark, so plans began to unfold as to how I might spend the night. I walked to town to get something to sleep in and something to wear the next day since I'd be driving back to Buipe just in time to pick up Terry & drive to Bole (3 hrs away) for a weekend training, a charger for my dead phone, food to eat. Then I got a taxi back to the mechanic where I waited for him to complete the repairs and drove to a hotel room without any toiletries to spend the night. It was the first time I had ever washed my hair with a bar of soap. Some days are just like that. BUT, at every step of the way I saw the faithfulness of God at work. Not every day is like that, but there are just some days where trust is all you can do.

In contrast, and what makes the plan "F" days worth it all is the unexpected baptism of the Fulani interpreter I had engaged to help me communicate with my Fulani neighbors. God is good! All the time!

Amy



FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's pure logic: Those with a stronger sense of urgency for making disciples will place a higher priority on disciple-making. When people are about to say goodbye to this earth, as Jesus did in Matthew 28, they don't talk about baseball (unless it's their life). They talk priorities. What was Jesus' priority #1? "Make disciples." Do you have a sense of urgency for discipling others? If not, pray for it, and get it. For insight on this, watch a video prepared by Jon, one of the newest workers at our home office in Louisville. To see Jon's 4-minute video, just go to vimeo.com/136664056. Better make it a priority today. We don't have time to waste. And thanks to the way YOUR favorite Team Expansion worker makes discipleship such a priority in his or her life -- and thanks for your partnership in empowering the org! Doug

BY THE NUMBERS-AUGUST

| | | |
|-----------|---|------------|
| ACT# | BALANCE FROM JULY | \$818.88 |
| | AUGUST DONATIONS | \$4,660.00 |
| | PERSONAL DONATION | |
| 300 | CHRISTIAN ED: PRINTED MAT'LS | \$30.91 |
| 320 | CHRISTIAN ED: HOSPITALITY | \$66.67 |
| 410 | EVANGELISM: MEDIA CHIPS | \$40.91 |
| 435-7 | PERMACULTURE CENTER | \$587.88 |
| 435-10 | RECORDING PROJECT | \$27.27 |
| 490 | NATIONAL CO-WORKERS | \$1,181.82 |
| 600 | OFFICE SUPPLIES | \$54.85 |
| 661 | INTERNET | \$53.94 |
| 800 | TRAVEL DIESEL | \$322.12 |
| 806 | VEHICLE MAINTENANCE | \$843.94 |
| 810 | TRAVEL MEALS | \$9.09 |
| 820 | TRAVEL TOLLS | \$10.80 |
| 830 | TRAVEL LODGING | \$89.33 |
| 840 | LEGAL FEES | \$188.48 |
| 920 | BANKING FEES | \$53.73 |
| | EXPENSES FOR AUGUST | \$3,561.74 |
| | BALANCE | \$1,917.14 |
| PROJECTS: | \$300 VILLAGE WATER PURIFICATION; \$300 CHICKEN PROJECT | |

PRAYER

| PRAISE GOD FOR... | REQUEST GOD FOR... |
|--|--|
| ...188 baptized new disciples to date in 2015 | ...the newly baptized believers becoming multiplying disciples |
| ...break through with the Fulani with 16 baptisms | ...favorable exchange rate to complete construction |
| ...favorable exchange rate, making donations go farther | ...completion of new studios this month & safety for workers |
| ...Chokossi church Grahams planted in Bilisikura growing | ...Graham's & Mike's community development projects |
| ...construction of studio under roof, finishing brick work | ...Kurawurakura church's growth & development |
| ...a 2 year residency permit finalized | ...Perm Ctr workers' health & safety : Allosis, Sehadu & Simon |
| ...national ID cards and vehicle inspections completed | ...Perm Ctr income generation |
| ...house maintenance work completed | ...Church Planters:Isaac, Moses, Moses Saaka, Derek, Joseph |
| ...the enjoyment of spinach, cilantro, basil, dill & mushrooms | ...Moses' Saaka's recording work at GILLBT |
| ...visit from our children | ...vehicles to work and last |
| ...GILLBT intern, Rachel Fehring's arrival and work | ...Rachel, GILLBT studio intern as she adjusts and works |
| ...the wonderful rains we have had filling the pond. | ...travel safety, health and adjustment of visitors, the Steps |
| ...Jonathan Training in Bole with 26 participants. | ...funding for a reliable travel vehicle |
| ...God's protection from persecution by assistant Imam | ...wisdom in choosing additional staff for GILLBT studio |
| ...Isaac's new church plant in Gulumpe | ...wisdom and growth for Ghana team and partners |
| ...good friends coming to visit (Alvin & Linda Stepp) | ...Diallo, Amadu & Edisa, Fulani seekers hearing the stories |

For details see <http://www.ruffupdate.com/Prayer.html>

Financial Gifts

All gifts are tax deductible. Please make payable & mail to:

Terry & Amy Ruff
c/o Northside Christian Church
4407 Charlestown Road
New Albany, IN 47150

Please provide an email address so a receipt can be emailed to you!

ONLINE GIFTS:

It is now possible to give to the Ghana Mission online:
<http://www.mynorthside.com/> -
 "online giving"

Accountability

Our Ghana Mission is held accountable by these organizations:

Team Expansion - Wayne Meece
4112 Old Routh Road
Louisville, KY 40299
800-447-0800

Northside Christian Church - Doug Newland
4407 CHARLESTOWN ROAD
NEW ALBANY, IN 47150
812-945-8704