

INDEPENDENT GOSPEL MISSIONS

A BAPTIST MISSION AGENCY

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West Africa Report #1

California to Ohio to New York to Dakar, Senegal, through Mali to Ouagadousau, Burkino Faso.

“Hey Mom! We’re home! We’re home!”

That is what we feel like shouting after traveling across the US, the Atlantic Ocean, and through 6 countries in West Africa. The last leg, Ghana Africa

to LA, was 30+ hours non-stop in the air and on the ground as we retraced our journey homeward. We and our baggage arrived in LA at 10:30 P.M., and our ride back to Lancaster (thanks Garrens!) was waiting! It was the perfect ending to the best mission trip we have ever taken, arriving 12:30 P.M. at home in Lancaster! We want you to know, right up front, that God is doing great things among the children of men!

The first night home, we crashed and slept 8 hours straight. The next night we were wide awake at 1 A.M., the next 2 A.M. Right now, it is three days later and 3 A.M. and, I, Rex, am wide awake. Andrea slept in; she woke up at 4! But, let us begin to tell you about our mission! For you to absorb the journey, we can’t cover it all at once, so let’s try to cover a few countries at a time. We sent a few notes to those who can receive Emails so this may be a little redundant, but we want to get everyone up to speed and also send a few pictures.

Sunday, Feb. 1st we had prayer with our supporting church family at Faith Community and went home to prepare to leave Friday morning. From L.A. International airport we flew to Cleveland, to Andrea’s brother Jim’s surprise 30th year anniversary party in his ministry at Calvary Baptist, Norwalk, OH. 18 hours later it was on to New York to catch a long but direct flight to Dakar, Senegal, West Africa. We flew all night and arrived at 4:45 A.M. (We were not “bright-eyed and bush-tailed!”) Yes! Our brother and West Africa coordinator Jim Arnold was there to take us back to his sister and brother-in-laws’ home in Dakar, Senegal. There we spent three days shifting time clocks, diets, and visiting their Christian Missionary Alliance ministries. It included Dakar Academy, a 250 MK (missionary kids) boarding school, and later the distribution of handicapped bicycles in Burkina Faso. That was our last R+R and we hit the ground running in Ouagadousau, Burkina Faso. Burkina is critical as it serves as a “Christian testimony barrier” to the spread of an aggressive religion and culture (that of Momar Kadify). It has bought and paid for over



30,000 Muslim mosques and orphanages throughout that country of 14,000,000 people in the past few years! It is here that IGM missionary Church Planter Pastor Lumpo has felt led of the Lord to resign from his now graduated mission work and begin a new church plant (and a Christian day school if the physical resources can be provided). He has left his small parsonage and moved to a new area. There we visited him and surveyed the area. He will begin the ministry in his newly rented home, yard and car parking area.

Having met Pastor Lumpo two years ago in the US at our mission training school, it was good to meet the rest of his team – his wife and kids. Now, what they really need is for a Christian Day school or two, along with several local churches in the USA, to partner with them.

We are praying that God will burden people to partner in prayer and financial support so that it will not be as David stated in Psalm 12:1

“Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men!”

Maybe some one of you knows of a church/school ministry that could partner with him? It would be a major and exciting blessing for both sides and by the Holy Spirit’s power further the cause of Christ tremendously!

Yours in His Matchless Name and for His Glory Alone,

Rex and Andrea

P.S. Concerning Andrea and me, pray for us as we rest and prepare for our next ministry of accountability, encouragement and education to Southeast Asia. The costs are not only financial but physical and we need your prayer and encouragement for both areas.

