

## Newsletter – March 7, 2016

First, THANKS TO ALL OF YOU who helped me with prayers and financial support so I could come home in January for gall bladder surgery. It would not have been possible without your love and concern. The surgery went perfectly and I rebounded in just a matter of days. I ended up spending about three weeks at home because the surgeon wanted me to give it a few weeks to be sure all was well. But, as soon as I was cleared I headed back to Cameroon to resume my work here at the school. What wonderful people you all are. I cherish each of you and pray for you every day. I feel “SO MUCH” better and don’t have that dull ache in my stomach now that was becoming so unbearable.

I arrived back in Cameroon the evening of Friday, February 5 and was back in school first thing Monday morning with my 7:30am middle school music class! The students were all very pleased to see me, as was I to see them! I did bring back some special treats to share with them and am rationing them out carefully to last the rest of the school year (I hope!).

Believe it or not it hadn’t rained one drop since I got back to Cameroon nearly a month ago - until this morning! We had seen over 100 days without any measurable precipitation. March marks the end of the dry season and we wait with open arms for the rains that bring cooler weather. In the dry season it is usually in the 90s with high humidity! Due to the fact that our electricity is generated with hydropower there are often frequent electricity cuts. And, of course due to no rain for months on end we endure water outages for sometimes over a week at a time. (Not complaining...just facts of life.)

We are beginning rehearsals for the middle school play and all is going well. Some of you may recognize the title as one that my parents did at College of the Albemarle. *The Three Bully Goats Griff* is a children’s play about the perils of bullying. It has sparked a number of great conversations with my 13 and 14 year old students about what bullying is, how one becomes a bully, and how to deal with a bully without becoming one yourself. I’m sure they’re learning a lot (and I’m learning a few things myself)!

Please enjoy the pictures I’ve included. They’ll give you a glimpse into my life here. The first is me with a man we call “Papa John.” He comes door to door selling baked goods. The second is of my friend Vikki and me. She is the one who braids my hair (a convenient thing to do around here, since you don’t have to wash it for a long time and therefore water cuts are more bearable). Her husband left her with their four children and she struggles to put food on the table each day. The third picture is of my friend Ita who also works to feed her family and take care of ailing relatives. She helps me out with chores from time to time and makes the best banana bread ever!

**Prayer Requests:** Unfortunately, with the rain we see more cases of malaria. I have yet to contract it but many of my colleagues and students have. Please pray for our safety as the rainy season begins. Also, as we begin to think about bringing this year to a close there is a bit of sadness in the air. So many of my colleagues and students are leaving at the end of the year either permanently or on furlough. Please pray as transition is never easy. Around here transition itself seems to be a revolving door of old friends leaving and new ones arriving. I was sick on March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> with a stomach virus of some kind that has been going around but it seems to be gone now. I lost six pounds in two days. Please pray that I don’t have a relapse.

Basic supplies are sometimes hard to get here and I sure do appreciate those of you who have helped with that! I am planning a trip back to North Carolina in the summer to reconnect with friends and to raise support. If you, your church, bible study group, or other organization would like to help out with supplies please send me an email and I will tell you how that can be accomplished while I’m in the U.S. over the summer.

I love hearing from you, so please send me an email! I can also give you my mailing address to send cards or letters. (My birthday is coming up on April 26<sup>th</sup> and I would love to have some birthday cards from my other home!) You can email me at: [Holly\\_Emmerich@WycliffeAssociates.org](mailto:Holly_Emmerich@WycliffeAssociates.org)



Blessings,

*Holly Emmerich*

Learning Support Specialist, Teacher, Director of Discipline  
Rain Forest International School

**John 9: 1- 3 As Jesus was walking along he saw a man who had been blind from birth. "Rabbi," his disciples asked him, "why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents' sins?" "It was not because of his sins or his parents' sins," Jesus answered. "This happened so the power of God could be seen in him..."**

**Wycliffe Associates**  
EVERY VERSE. EVERY TONGUE. EVERY HEART.