

Burkina Blurbs



"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." — Jesus

Dale & Florence Johnson ✦ (Stateside) 2108 Foxtail Drive Pottstown, PA 19464 ✦ (Overseas) SIM Mission Protestante BP 18, Diapaga, Burkina Faso ✦ johnson@ergatai.com ✦ www.ergatai.com ✦ 226-70-80-97-44 ✦ SIM Missionary #72417

Great Commission



money so that we could be here. So, despite all of the difficulties and changes that we've faced in the last three years, we're also very encouraged.

Since you have helped us in the good times and the bad, we wanted you to share in the encouraging things with us.

It's almost impossible to believe that this is our last newsletter before we finish our first term in Burkina Faso! We are so grateful to all of our friends and family who have provided constant encouragement, prayers, and even

Last Sunday, we went to a good old-fashioned baptism in a creek near Mahadaga.

Among the people being baptized were five of our disabled friends, including Yempabou and Moussa. Those two come faithfully on their tricycles to greet us at our house every evening, even if it rains. It was humbling and awe-inspiring to watch the fruit of years and years of work in their lives. And now, those who once would have been outcasts in their village are now witnesses and examples of God's changing power.

Though it can often take years to see much progress, these two boys provide a good example of what our work in Mahadaga is all about. It is true that development work often

begins with the physical need. But our true goal is to see each person's life transformed by meeting not only the physical need, but the emotional and spiritual need as well, equipping each one to go and do likewise.



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Kids' Korner

Boys, boys, boys...what more can be said about two incredibly rambunctious little boys. Joel is rounding the corner to his 2nd birthday now and letting us know it. He imitates his older brother more every day, a form of flattery that Caleb does not necessarily appreciate. Joel is the more timid one of the two boys, but you could hardly call him shy. Being timid also does not mean he's not a dare-devil. We've had our hearts in our throats many times in the past watching Caleb, but lately we're beginning to think that Caleb is actually the more cautious one of our two boys.

Both boys love music, and now that Caleb figured out how to work

the CD player, song and dance parties have become a regular occurrence in our living room (sometimes inconveniently in the middle of a conversation). Caleb is still obsessed with airplanes and trucks, while Joel absolutely loves to kick the ball around. Both boys share a passion for running around the house with a toy hammer and "fixing" things. Though we are often tired, we dearly love our two little blessings!



Meet a Friend

Meet our pastor, Dialenli Lompo.



Dialenli grew up in an animist family in Mahadaga. Most of his family are still animist. His father has 3 wives, and he has many step brothers and sisters.

Dialenli started going to church when he was 5 or 6, attracted by the treats given out after Sunday School. At first, he was a pretty difficult kid with little interest in church. But the treats kept him coming to church and

eventually the message changed his life.

At the age of 12, Dialenli accepted Jesus Christ as his savior and was baptized soon after. As a young man, he attended one of the Bible schools started by the Evangelical Church and SIM, where he eventually became ordained as a pastor.

Two years ago, Dialenli accepted the call from the “French Church” and moved back to his home town. He is firm and outspoken in his faith

and preaching.

Aside from being a friend, he is also Dale’s Gourma language helper. His wife, Beta, helps Florence with translation for the women’s Bible study. They have two children, Buama and Ephrata and live behind the mission.

Want more details on the ministry at the Center for the Advancement of the Handicapped? Sign up for their newsletter by emailing CHAMahadaga@simbf.org or for postal service, write to SIM Mission Protestante, B.P. 18, Diapaga, Burkina Faso

Prayer & Praise

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SIM USA
PO Box 7900
Charlotte, NC 28241
www.sim.org

Please be sure to place our missionary number on the memo (#72417).

- Praise that Ounteni, the co-director at the CAH, has had steady improvement and healing from his abdominal pain and has returned from the capital.
- Praise for Francoise’s safe return to Mahadaga.

- Pray for the thousands of people who were left homeless in Ouagadougou after heavy rains caused flash-flooding and mass destruction to homes and crops.
- Pray for the CAH’s board meeting (Sept 26); there are many important decisions to make during this month
- Pray for our preparations

for home assignment – that we would end our term well and prepare everyone for our absence.

- Pray for the women’s Bible Study Florence is leading over the next 2 months.
- Pray for travel safety and health as we spend time traveling in Europe on our way home.

Did You Know?

- There are 3 main types of grain used for making “toh”, the Burkinabe staple food: millet, sorghum and corn. In our area, people also grow peanuts, rice and cotton.
- It takes only one 50-kilo-sack of grain to feed a family of 4 for a month. One sac of millet costs as little as \$14 at the height of the harvest season and as much as \$45 during the “hungry” season.
- Standard maternity leave in Burkina Faso is 3 months; men are also entitled to 3 days paternity leave.
- Most mothers nurse their children up to 20-24 months. Average number of children per woman: 6.



Culture Shock!

- During rainy season, it’s not uncommon to have an employee ask off because his house fell in!
- Rain in Burkina is kind of like a snow-storm; when it rains hard, events are cancelled, work is delayed and most people stay home.
- Lord, where’s our rainbow? Recently, the capital of Burkina experienced deluge-like rains that dumped over a foot of water onto the city, causing major flooding.
- In Gourma culture, when a woman’s husband dies, she becomes the responsibility of the husband’s family and the children belong to them.