

# FLAMING NEWS

## Spring, 2007

### Freedom Life African Ministries Emmanuel



### Greetings in the name of our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We were hoping to get our letter out before Easter to send an Easter greeting. But what is Easter anyway? It is a holiday that passes. Our Lord's resurrection is something we should celebrate everyday. ALLELUIA!!

Martha and Herb are back in Washington. We are overjoyed! Their joy is tempered a bit because of what they had to leave behind – no not the hot weather, or the problems that always seem to appear – but the people, the love and acceptance they are shown whenever they are in Canchungo and so on and on.

Herb and Martha's experience in Canchungo this year seemed very different from the two years before. This time the emphasis was on people more than on the building, more than even the school. Perhaps that is why the leaving was so difficult.

The last journal entry from Herb and Martha was entitled "Torn Between". Many of the days events ended with "What will happen when we are gone?" What will happen with the many who come almost daily for Martha to look at their infected sores? What will happen to those who recently have gotten involved with the study of scripture at the house? Will the children who seem so eager to attend Sunday school continue being so eager? Will there be someone to stop the children and others from "messing around" on our property? Who will take over the prayers over hurts, both physical and emotional? Who will show interest in the children who need someone to listen or play or

introduce them to jig-saw puzzles? And isn't it interesting that none of these things are directly related to the Jesus Industrial School?

Herb and Martha looked great. I don't believe they were bothered with any really unusual health issues – they were far too busy helping the folks in their neighborhood. Much thanks to World Concern for medical supplies and to God for the ability to use them.

Next, think of all the things that needed to be accomplished for JSI to continue – even to really get going! Herb was busy finishing the screens for the windows. Martha completed sewing heavy curtains for the windows. They sorted tools for the mechanics class, which was ready to begin. The materials for the sewing class also had to be classified.

The car was a blessing but cost much more with all the duties and red tape. I wonder if all the papers are yet in order? However, the use of it surely helped on the trips to Bissau – the last one they were able to get some computers ready with help from folks from the Youth For Christ Office in Bissau. Imagine getting computers down there on public transportation! The jeep also helped them spoil the folk from the neighborhood by giving them rides to church.

Bookwork had to be done before they came home. Joel had to have a handle on the system so he could continue with paying the workers, teachers etc. He also has to keep a tally on things all round. Was he ready? Then there had to be sufficient funds for this operation to continue. Tuition – the ability to pay it – the need to reduce it – the struggles they have in their culture because many folks don't get paid at their jobs – maybe for months. We have to operate a school and use funds with integrity but also be considerate of the needs of the people. It takes a lot of understanding and walking in prayer with God. Pray with us and the people we serve in Guinea Bissau.

Perhaps one of the biggest problems/drawbacks was the inability to put up the security wall. The bricks were ready and are still drying. The workers were available, but our property was/is in jeopardy. Though we received the property as a gift from King Ferreira and we paid for the recording and measuring – which was not cheap – the local government wishes to take part of our property to build a temporary road. Grrrr! This means we also

delay in building a shed and other needs for the mechanics class. Pray for Pastor Chenda as he plans to see this through while our missionaries are here.

Sewing machines there are just TOO expensive. Martha has some very good ideas about using the ones they have received – how to convert electric to treadle etc. Maybe solar power on the school building could help keep them electric. It could help in other ways as well and would be cheaper than using diesel generators for power. We thank those who donated toward the purchase of new machines. If you know anyone who is updating her/his machine and wants to give machines away, you have a message for them. Contact Martha to see if the machine qualifies

At our meeting we received reports that the mechanics' class began on March 5 with fewer students than we had hoped even after we lowered the tuition. A new mechanic has come to help with the school and has great dreams for how this activity can be very helpful as income for the school.

Also at our meeting we received much information that our missionaries had prepared such as: class schedules, proposals, how money and time were spent, how much money is needed to keep going and to go forward.

They brought a neat letter along from Pastor Chenda. I have enclosed it with the wording as he put it because the "flavor" comes through a bit better that way. He was especially thankful for the seeds, though that wasn't all.

Now, along with Martha and Herb, we will need to visit those who support FLAME. We need to plan materials and items to be shipped in the next container. We may even give them a little time to relax and rejuvenate. Since they arrived home, Herb has spent a few hours in the hospital with heart palpitations – he had this on his return last year as well. We pray the problem can be understood and that this will not occur again.

We thank you for your continued prayers for FLAME.

- We always need patience and persistence.
- Pray for Joel as he takes on a lot of responsibility in Guinea Bissau while Martha and Herb are with us.
- Pray that our God will protect our property and that the government will find a different route for their road.
- Pray for continued health, stamina and insight for our missionaries.
- Pray for others to step forward as leaders for FLAME.

We thank you also for your financial gifts. You may send gifts at any time to

FLAME

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More information can be gleaned from the web

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Canchungo, 27-2-07

Dear brothers, sisters, and frindes in U. S. A. Your willingness has already said it. I would like to thank you all so much for the help you are doing a mong my people in Guini-Bissau whom some of you does not known or seen before. But you are willing to help them through Martha and Herb Ronords. By giving them a lot of kindes of sedes for anblaing them to grow their own foodes.

May the God of JesusChrist who is the God of all mankind, and the giver of lives to all mankindes too keep you and helping you in what evere you desire to have and do.

Your in Christ

Pastor Uessa Mendes (Chinda) the Evangelical church of Guinea Bissau  
West Africa at Canchungo

*We are called by God to be channels of His love, messengers of His Word and instruments of the Holy Spirit to bring the people of Africa into the fellowship of Christ and His Church.*