

May Update

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgements, and his paths beyond tracing out! Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor? Who has ever given to God that God should repay him? For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen. Romans 11:33-36

Thanks to all of you who respond to my monthly updates. It is so encouraging. Without all of you I would not be able minister to the needs of the people here in Nigeria. This month has been a very eventful month with many fun activities and a little sadness. Many missionaries have left for furlough/vacation and more will leave in June. We are sad to see them go, but wish them safe travel and a good time. We had three missionaries who had to be sent out due to medical problems. Debbie is getting some medical testing done in her country. The Ward family had to leave early for furlough because of emotional problems due to the loss of their son in January. Then Jim, who had just come to the field two or so months ago, had a stroke at the end of this month. We are praying for the needs of all of these people and that God will continue to watch over them and provide healing for them.

Now let me share the many wonderful and exciting things that have happened this month. One of my good Nigerian friends got married at the beginning of the month. I was in the bridal party and it was a great day of celebration. There was a lot of music, dancing, and placing money on the forehead of the bride and groom and others while they danced. These are just a few of the normal cultural activities one does at a Nigerian wedding. As usual, it was an all day event and we had a great time. She will now be living in Abuja which is three hours away so I won't get to see her as often as before. *(pictures included)*

Evangel Hospital: It has been a busy month with many patients at the hospital. Dr. Zirschky, an orthopedic surgeon from the USA, has come and will be here for three weeks so we will have many orthopedic patients for therapy. I am happy to say that many of my patients have been discharged from the hospital. Danladi, the boy who had the snakebite, was finally able to go home. His arm has healed to the point now that he only needs dressing changes until the wounds completely heal. He can do the dressing changes at a clinic near his home. Emma, the patient who got his hand caught in a bread mixing machine, has healed well, but needed a skin graft to close the wounds on his hand. I am sad to say he left the hospital because he had no money to pay for the bill and he has not come back. I hope he will return and that his hand will heal well. Many other patients have gone home and I praise God for their good recovery. *(pictures included)* My M friend Miriam returned to the hospital to see Dr. Zirschky. She just had surgery to repair the fracture of the bone in her lower leg. I pray that this will be the last surgery she will have and that she will be able to walk well on that leg. I hope this hospital stay will be another chance to share about Christ with her. *(picture included)* Deborah, one of the Nigerian Physical Therapist, returned back to work this month. It is good to have her back though right now she has to bring the baby to work with her because she has been unable to find house help to help take care of the baby.

Transition House: My family group had a wonderful outing to the hospital. The boys helped plan the program including songs, scripture reading, words of encouragement,

prayer and handing out oranges. The boys had a great time and the patients and staff really enjoyed them coming. I took the boys to the hospital restaurant after the outing for food and drinks and they really enjoyed it. (*pictures included*)

Andy is one of the boys at Transition House and he injured his leg in a car accident when he was five years old. His leg is shorter and his foot is deformed. He is twelve years old now and he went to see Dr. Zirschky to see what he could do to fix his foot. Dr. Zirschky said that he could straighten his foot, but his leg would always be shorter. He felt the better option was to amputate his leg below the knee and get him a prosthesis. The staff discussed this with Andy and he agreed. He had surgery this week and we pray for a good recovery.

Stealing has been a major problem with the boys at Transition House. They steal each other's things and sell them so they can buy something they want or to get money for food or other needs for their families. The boys have now had all of the privileges taken away until someone confesses to doing the stealing. Pray for the boys as this is a major problem that needs to be changed so it does not become part of their character as they grow older.

I will be traveling to southern Germany for a single missionary retreat June 9-17 and then will have two days in Austria before I return to Nigeria. I am really looking forward to this time to get away from the ministry and spend some time with God. I look forward to spending time with other single missionaries as well as seeing some beautiful sights.

Praises:

- Healing and discharge of many of my patients.
- Orthopedic surgeon coming from USA
- Good family group outing with the boys

Prayer Request:

- Pray for Debbie, the Ward family, and Jim with their many health needs. Pray for wisdom for the doctors and for God's healing hand to be upon them.
- Pray for a successful surgery and recovery for my friend Miriam. Continue to pray for her salvation.
- Pray for a successful surgery for Andy. Pray for him as this will be a painful process and will take some time before his leg will heal and he will be able to wear a prosthesis.
- Pray that God would convict the boys at Transition House of their sin in stealing. Pray that they will have a heart of repentance and stop stealing.
- Pray for me that I will have a safe journey to Germany for the missionary retreat. Pray for good rest, time with God, and encouragement as I spend time with other single missionaries.

God bless,
Gay Lynn



Jov and I at her sendforth



Jov and I at her wedding



My patient Miriam



My patient Danladi



TH boys singing at the hospital