

# October Update 2008

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Romans 12:1*

**Camping at Kurra Falls:** There is never an end to exciting adventures here in Nigeria and our weekend at Kurra Falls was definitely an exciting adventure, as camping trips in



Africa should be! I joined a group of eight other people for a one-hour drive to Kurra Falls, a beautiful area with three lakes surrounded by rocky hills. The views were beautiful and it was so quite with out all the honking horns and loud noises. When we arrived, I wondered if we were still in Nigeria. We had lots of time for walks, talks, reading, playing games, eating, and hiking the hills. I would have to say that hiking and exploring the

hills was a big highlight for the weekend. The sights from the top of the mountain were breath taking, as I stood and looked out over God's beautiful creation. We saw several Fulani children with their cattle and we called down greetings to them.

We were definitely camping in style, as we had a couple with us who have lived in Nigeria about 25 years and had been camping at this place many times. They had cooking over an open fire down to an art. I slept in a big tent with three other people, which I think was a better deal than my two friends who had to squeeze themselves into a small child's tent. Our tent seemed to have a better nights sleep also, as we heard the next morning that our two friends were kept awake by hearing "creatures" outside their tent. It was just the bats out for their nightly hunting.



The weekend was a great chance to relax and just sit and enjoy the scenery. This will definitely be a place that we will visit again. I always cherish a time to get away and be refreshed especially out in nature where I can enjoy God's beautiful creation. You can view pictures of the trip on [picasaweb.google.com/glmccrady](http://picasaweb.google.com/glmccrady).

**Family Bible:** I visited another church with a friend one Sunday. When we arrived, we found out that it was Choir Day that Sunday. There were three visiting choirs along with the choir from that church that performed special numbers. All of the choirs sang well and two of them were very creative in the styles of songs they sang. One choir got up to sing and four people went to the microphones for solo parts. As the music started, I thought, this sounds like a country tune. Right then, the man started singing in his deep bass voice. My mouth fell open. It was Johnny Cash's song "Family Bible". The singer

had a beautiful voice and sounded just like Johnny Cash. I chuckled and thought I never would have believed that I would hear country music in a church in Nigeria. I am sure that Johnny Cash would be proud to know his music made it all the way to Nigeria. As I always say, there is never a dull moment in Nigeria.

Texas Team Returns: This is the seventh year that the team from Lake Pointe Church in Rockwall, TX has returned to Nigeria. We have grown to love this team and look



forward to them coming each year. They are a loud and crazy group and most of the Nigerians in the ministry think that all Texans are like them. There were twenty people on this year's team and fourteen of them have come before. They know all about the different ministries in Nigeria, so they come prepared with set plans for what ministries and activities they will do during their two week stay.

This year they were busy from the time they set foot in Jos. They did outreaches to three villages, one in the far north and then visited five prisons outside of Jos. The impact was great. Basically, no one had ever visited these prisons. They even bailed out two women-one who could not repay a \$200 loan and one who could not cover the bail she paid for a friend. They also hosted the Birthday parties for all of the care centers. They performed puppet shows, taught the kids songs, and provided small gifts for all the kids. The children had a great time.

This year Nancy, a Physical Therapist and her husband came with the team. We e-mailed back and forth before they came, so she was able to bring some needed supplies for the therapy department. She was able to spend some time with me at the hospital and we discussed what therapy equipment was needed and what she might be able to bring when she comes next year. Nancy and her husband were only able to stay for one week, but it was good to get to know them and look forward to them coming again next year.



Two weeks always flies by fast and it was hard to say goodbye to my crazy Texas friends. We so appreciate their time here and the ministry that they did that touched the lives of many Nigerians with the love of Christ. They may not be here in person, but they are in our thoughts and prayers and leave behind evidences of their ministry in the lives that have been changed.

### Praise:

- This month I celebrated my fifth year in Nigeria. Times sure goes by fast!
- The supplies that Nancy was able to bring for the therapy department.
- All the boys that were reconciled home are doing well with their families.

### Prayer Requests:

- Pray for Matthew, the new Physical Therapist from England, and I as the Nigerian therapist will be on leave for all of November.
- We have five new girls at the care center in Gyero. One is only three years old. Pray for them as they adjust to life at the care center and for Mama Sati, Mama Praise and Kaka as they care for them.
- I am on the SIM conference committee. Pray for all of the preparations for the annual conference for all the SIM missionaries January 7-11.
- Discipleship classes started this month at Transition House. Pray for me as I get to know the nine boys in my group and that I can help them grow in their relationship to God.

Gay Lynn McCrady