

## August Update

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*  
*Colossians 3:16-17*

Greeting to all of you in the name of Christ. I always enjoy the month of August because it is cool and there is lots of rain. Everything is green this time of year and the flowers are so pretty. This is the time to plant the last of your plants and flowers, so they get a good watering before the dry season comes and the sun is hot. You have to put up with driving and walking in the rain or delaying some activities until the rain stops, but it is worth it. All the flowers and plants in my garden are growing well and I hope that I can maintain them during the dry season.

### Evangel Hospital

Kemi, one of the Nigerian therapist is gone on leave for six weeks, so there is just two of us in the Physiotherapy Department right now. There was a therapist coming to help us during those six weeks, but he told the medical director that he would not work for the amount of pay offered. We are doing the best we can, while praying that a therapist will come soon.

I now have a new project that I did not expect, but I am happy to do. We are designing a playground at the hospital. We have discussed this idea several times, but no action was taken by anyone. We have chosen a location and now it is designing time. I have looked at several playgrounds and gotten ideas on designs and types of equipment. I will keep you updated on the progress and send you pictures when it is finished.

I received some sad news two weeks ago. Miriam, a M women who was my patient for over a year and who I was ministering to, passed away. When I returned, I wondered why she had not come to the hospital to greet me and tell me how she was doing. Her mother came two weeks ago and said that she had died in June from complications with Sickle Cell disease. I was really sad. Keep the mother in your prayers as she is left to care for Miriam's two children and her own teenage daughter who has Sickle Cell disease. *(Picture below)*

### Transition House

This is the month that I take on the Nigerian look each year. Don't fall out of your seat. I still have the white skin but I have braided hair. Camp for the boys at Transition House is in August each year. I will write about camp at a later time. Since there is no guarantee of electricity and we haul water for bathing, it is just easier to not have to worry about your hair. Hey, the big plus is everyone tells me I look Nigerian. Ha. This year I left it braided for two weeks because everyone at the hospital liked it also. But after two weeks, I was ready for the braids to come out. Let me tell you something funny. There was a team here from the U.S and the first time they met me I had braided hair. The next time we met the braids were out and it was my regular hair. It took them fifteen minutes to recognize who I was. Another time I was with them and I

was wearing a head tie. One of them said that I was really sly and she could never recognize me. Maybe I would be good at working undercover. (picture below)

We have three new boys at Transition House that arrived not long before I returned. Shadrack is six, Francis is seven, and Monday is eleven. They are all so cute and it has been fun getting to know them. Shadrack likes to rub your elbow and snuggle close to you. We call Francis a monkey because he is running all over the place full of energy. He also does a very good imitation of a monkey. Monday is shy, but we have had a lot of good talks and he is making some friends. All three are in my family group. (pictures below)

I had my family group over to my apartment for our family group outing. There were fifteen boys and three adults so my house was full. I learned how to make potatoes and porridge from my cook and we made it together for the boys. It rained most of the afternoon, but we had fun playing games, coloring, doing puzzles, eating food, and watching a movie. I had the game Rush Hour that I played with the older boys. I said that I was going to test their brains. The boys really enjoyed it and even the adults took on the challenge. It is always fun hanging out with the boys. (picture below)

### **Prayer Requests**

- Pray that we will find a therapist to fill in while Kemi is on leave.
- Pray that the designing of the playground will go well and that the construction can start soon.
- Pray for Miriam's mother as she grieves the loss of her daughter and as she cares for her two grandchildren.
- Pray for the three new boys as they adjust to life at Transition House.
- Pray for me as I have started up my Hausa lessons again. I really want to learn to speak the language.

Thank you for all of your thoughts and prayers.

God bless,  
Gay Lynn



Miriam and her children



My braided hair



Monday



Shadrack and Francis



Boys playing the Rush Hour game