



New Year Brings New Opportunities

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Sorry for not getting this update out sooner. We had a great Christmas with family in Alabama and Indiana. While in Indiana Travis started feeling sick and tested positive for COVID and over the next couple of days so did many members of our family. Thankfully none of us had severe cases and we were able to quarantine together. We thought Elizabeth may escape without getting it but when we left Indiana on Monday morning she had a fever and it seems like she probably has it but is doing better each day.



Thank you to everyone who prayed for us and supported us during this time of transition. The move went smoothly and we are getting settled into our new apartment here in Clarkston. We had a bit of a roach infestation when we moved in but praise God we have been able to get that under control. Samuel and Elizabeth are adjusting well to apartment life and enjoying getting to know the neighbor children. This has created opportunities for us to get to know some of the parents and begin building relationships with our neighbors. The majority of our neighbors are refugees from Afghanistan and Nepal. It is amazing to see how God is using conflict abroad to bring unreached people groups from hard to reach places around the world here to the USA where they will have a chance to hear the good news of the Gospel. Pray for wisdom for us as we are building relationships with our neighbors and look for opportunities to share with them.

One of my (Travis) responsibilities with GFM will be helping develop ministry opportunities using agriculture for students going through the missionary training program. I will be taking over the community garden that I started here back in 2014 and organizing it to create ministry opportunities for the students. Most of the gardeners are Nepali and Burmese refugees so it is a great place to build relationships with refugees which leads to opportunities to share the gospel with them. I also hope to develop some training for missionaries who want to serve overseas in agriculture using some of the methods that we used when we were living in Guinea Bissau. There are lots of possibilities and ministry opportunities for both of us so please pray that God would give us wisdom as we decide what to do.

Another big change for us in moving to Atlanta is the cost of living. Our rent has gone up by about \$800 per month. Our car insurance is also about double what we were paying in Indiana. This means that for the first time in many years we are in need of more monthly supporters. We would like to raise \$1000 more in monthly support to cover all of the extra living expenses associated with living in a big city. If you are interested in learning how to partner with us financially you can call Travis (470-261-6460), email travis@hoperemembered.org, or go to [Hope Remembered](https://www.hoperemembered.com) ([etransfer.com](https://www.hoperemembered.com)) and choose Staff Support-Travis and Sarah Lacy from the dropdown menu.



We were excited to see that the gardeners have kept the community garden going on their own. We hope to upgrade the water supply and cut down some trees to allow more sunlight to get to the garden before the spring gardening season starts



These are makeshift desks that the kids have been using at the school in Guinea Bissau.

While I have new responsibilities here in Clarkston I continue with my role and responsibilities with Hope Remembered. One of my duties is staying in touch with our teammates that are still in Guinea Bissau and helping them have what they need to carry out their ministry. Recently Freddy and Raquel told us that the government inspectors visited their school and threatened to shut it down if they didn't have proper desks. They had been using makeshift desks made out of mud bricks and scrap wood. I spoke with Jason Atkins who is a Hope Remembered missionary in Guinea Bissau who has a vocational training program that teaches welding. One of the things that he has taught the guys to make is school desks. We are trying to raise money to purchase 100 desks so that each student will have their own desk and the schools can remain open. Each desk costs about \$100 so we need to raise \$10000 to purchase all of the desks that we need. He had 26 desks already made and praise God we were able to raise some money to buy these. We still need help to get the remaining 74 desks made. If you would like to donate towards this project you can click on the link below to learn more.



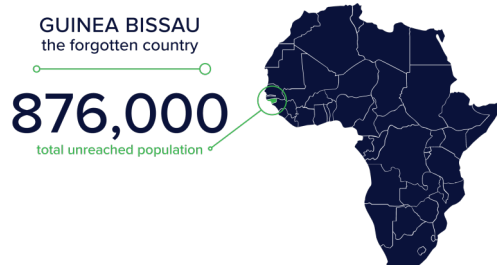
The kids are already enjoying the first set of desks that we were able to purchase.

Praises:

- The transition to Clarkston went smoothly and the kids are adjusting well
- We have begun making friend with our neighbors
- There are 11 new students going through the missionary training program here in Clarkston this semester
- We were able to purchase enough desks for an entire classroom in Guinea Bissau

Prayer Requests:

- That we would recover from Covid with no long-term symptoms
- Wisdom and guidance as we make decisions about our ministry here
- That God would provide the financial support that we need
- That we would get approved for health insurance here and that Travis would be able to find a good doctor that would be able to diagnose what is causing his sleep problems and fatigue
- That God would provide the finances to purchase the rest of the desks that we need *for the kids*



Check out our website at hoperemembered.org! If you feel led to partner with Hope Remembered and the work in Guinea-Bissau you can also click on the link to donate or write a check and send it to the address below.

Our mailing address is: Hope Remembered P.O Box 5 Fosters, AL 35463