



Jason & Emily Atkins

Ministering in Guinea-Bissau

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In the last twelve months we've been asked when we're going back to Africa approximately 856,217 times, and now we finally have an answer - June 3rd!!!

That's right, the tickets are booked, the bags are being packed, and we are getting ready to head out in just a few short weeks. Originally we were planning on going for two years during this trip but in order to return quickly we've shortened this trip to one year.

We made a four year commitment to the work in Guinea-Bissau and we were planning on going for two two-year terms. However, because the missionaries we are replacing are going to be leaving in July, we need some time with them so that we can have a smooth transition as we assume some of their responsibilities. Our fundraising for a two year term is not complete, but we have do have the money and commitments to support our ministry for one year. After praying about it we decided to leave now. As we go, please continue to pray with us for the rest of our funding (if more monthly commitments are made we can continue working longer before we need to return to the U.S.).

It's definitely going to be a tornado around here for the next few weeks, but we are so excited to be going back. In a lot of ways it's a bittersweet moment for us because we are leaving home and going back home at the same time. We will miss you guys so much but we are looking forward to seeing our African friends and getting back to work with them again.

Thank you so much for your support, prayers, and encouragement. Now that we are so close to returning to Africa, we are reminded that God has used your sacrifices to make it possible. Thank you for giving your time, energy, and resources for God's work in West Africa.

Takin' Care of Business

Some of the projects that we will be working on are continuations of things we worked on before, but we are adding a few new things this time.

The Computer School: Jason

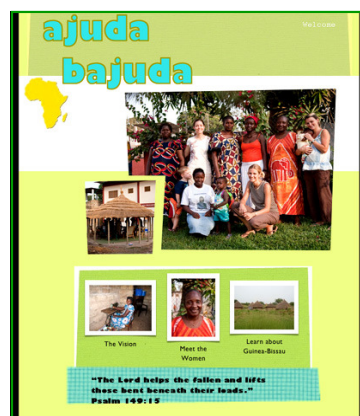
I will continue the curriculum development role in the computer school, helping to continue raising the academic bar for the hundreds of computer students. I'm also excited to be able to repair several computers that have broken while we've been gone and install several new pieces of computer equipment that were shipped over and are waiting on someone who can get them going.



Sisco helping some of the computer students.

Ajuda Bajuda: Emily

Three of the other super-awesome missionaries on our team, Polly, Anna, and Katie, have started a micro enterprise project that trains local women to make handicrafts that are sold in the U.S. Some of the profits will pay the women for their work and some of the profits will be saved to provide funding to the women who are interested in starting their own businesses eventually. I will be filling a primary roll in this project when Anna and Polly move to Dakar in the next couple of months. It's really a cool ministry and you can find out more about it at www.ajudabajuda.com



Ajuda Bajuda's website - check it out!

Continued...

Contributions are under the control and administration of YFC/USA and are tax-deductible.

www.yfc.org/give

Please make checks payable to

YOUTHFORCHRIST USA

PO Box 4478

Englewood, CO 80155

For the ministry of:

Jason & Emily Atkins

Account: 30115

Serving with Youth for Christ / Guinea-Bissau, Africa

Donation Information:

Check # _____ Amount _____

☐ Please apply this to my pledge.

☐ This is a new pledge per month of: ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ other

☐ This is a one-time gift for their ministry.

☐ Please send me information regarding automatic monthly Electronic Fund Transfer

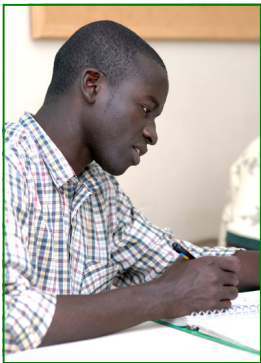
Construction: Jason

The block maker that was donated will arrive in Bissau in late July. It provides a golden opportunity for YFC Guinea-Bissau to be able to help the national Church by building schools and churches, as well as provide for the national YFC program financially. Ahead of the block maker arriving, there is a great deal of work to do locating the right kind of dirt, securing the rights to the land the dirt is going to be mined from, and training a team to mine the dirt, manipulate it, and run the machine. I will hold the primary responsibility for setting up and managing this “block assembly line.”



English Teacher Training: Emily

I will be working hard to produce an intensive teacher training course that will be able to produce new Guinean teachers who can teach English excellently and share the Gospel passionately with their students.



To get more information about our projects and see updates on them go to our website: www.jasonandemilyatkins.com/projects

Container Mania: by Jason

The last few months have been busy ones – but productive! A shipping container is leaving at the end of the May to carry the block maker and a lot of other things over to Bissau. We have been organizing and coordinating a lot of different aspects of this and at times it's been pretty crazy!

Some of the major things headed over in the container are:

- The block maker and lots of associated tools (shovels, rakes, 5 gallon buckets, etc).
- Several motorcycles to make traveling between the major cities easier, cheaper, faster, and more comfortable – including one that I found for us for \$400 and then repaired so that it's running great! (Thanks to the several knowledgeable people who helped on that project!)
- Computers to expand our computer labs and improve our ability to serve our students by allowing them more opportunities to practice.
- Tools to set up a small fabrication shop including a donated brand-new generator/welder that will be the heart of the shop. I've also gotten some great finds on Craigslist and eBay including an air compressor, drill press, plasma cutter, air tools, and hand tools. Because we were able to find such great deals we're going to be able to do a lot of different things that we wouldn't have been able to do before.

The thing that took the most time was getting all of the stuff together for the shop. I don't know how many times I stood in Home Depot for hours trying not to forget a single part, because once we get over to Guinea-Bissau the nearest Home Depot will be about 2000 miles away! Daaah! We want to do everything as cheaply as possible, but still get parts that can stand up to a serious work out. Since containers only go every year or couple of years, it's a little stressful trying to think of anything you might conceivably need, get it all found at good prices, and get it ordered and packed! One way or another though, we're getting close to the end. The stuff we got will be a big help and we'll make do without whatever we forgot!

Because of all of our new supplies we will have a lot of exciting work to do over the next several months. We are glad for all of the “tools” God has put in our hands to be able to use to help improve life in Guinea-Bissau and show God's love and care to the Guinean people.

Jason + Emily



Emily Packing



Jason built the crate including some handy shelves.



First things first, we packed the new bike and some large tools.



This is the halfway point...



Finally everything is in our crate and Jason is on top putting the lid on so that we can ship it down to New Orleans to be packed into the container headed for Guinea-Bissau!



The stuff that Jason, Jim, and Larry drove from Tulsa, to San Antonio, to New Orleans to pack into the container headed for Bissau.