



The Atkins Family

Jason, Emily, Savannah,
Nathaniel, and Miriam

Serving in Guinea-Bissau,
West Africa

March 2025

Incremental,
steady progress in
March!

Shop Still Growing *by Jason*

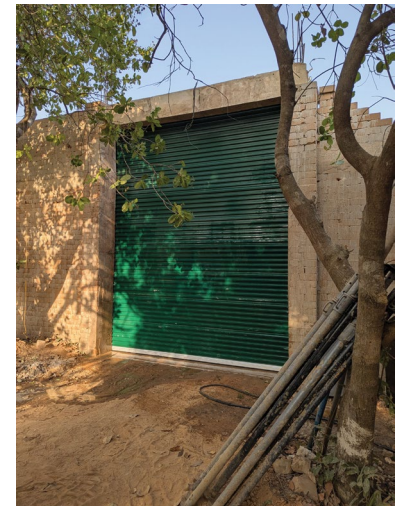
We've made more progress on the new shop this month! Some of the progress has been incremental (more columns and wall have gone up) and some has been new (the installation of the shop's main 12'x15' overhead door)! Seeing the shop continue to take shape is so exciting after dreaming of a space like this for so long. As every section of wall fills in and grows taller, standing in the middle continues to give more



It's so exciting to see the shop construction changing by the week as new walls go up!



We poured the header for the doorway using the tractor and buckets.



The big 12'x15' roll-up door will facilitate moving vehicles, material, and work in and out of the shop!

and more of a feel for what the space will be like when it's finally done and all of the great work that will be able to be done in it.

We continue to push toward having the machine shop wing (a little over a quarter of the overall shop building) covered and closed up before the rain arrives in early June.

Thank you again for your support allowing us to undertake the project!

House Floors *by Jason*

Though it's been largely paused as we devote attention to the shop recently, we were also able to make some visible progress on our house, which has been a finished foundation for a while. We did two different slab pours, the large front porch and the master bedroom. With the porch slab in place, we were also able to pour several of the concrete columns that will support the roof over the open porch. It's so exciting to see things moving forward, even if only a few small steps, on the house again!



Guest Space Progress *by Jason*

Another small but important step this month was sealing up the septic tank that will serve the bungalows and the eventual bunk house for hosting guests! Sealing the tank will allow us to install the first toilet at the site (in the bungalow). This not only paves the way for our first guest in the almost-completed first bungalow, but also gives us a spot when the need arises.



We had cast the concrete septic tank lid previously and were waiting to install it until the leach system was set up. The day arrived, and the tractor was the key to success!



There's nothing especially exciting about a hole in the ground, but a first working toilet at the site will be a big step!



Shake, Rattle, And Roll *by Jason*

Before we left for furlough last year, I'd begun feeling a bit of slop in the motor of our truck when beginning to accelerate. Fortunately, I had already sent a spare motor mount knowing that's a common failure point with our vehicle. When we returned, it was much worse and I knew the time had come. Although I don't have a transmission jack to be able to lift the motor up the couple of inches I needed to create the separation required to swap the mount, the tractor was ready to help and did a great job! Not a fun job, but certainly necessary!



When you don't have an engine hoist, you get creative!



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