

Newsletter # 0003– Monday 15 October 2007
Mission to Burkina-Faso
Mark Carine Anaëlle and Joshua LEWIS

Psalm 100v1-3: "Shout for joy to the Lord all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness, come before Him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God, it is He who made us and we are His. We are His people the sheep of His pasture."



Praise God, here we are in Africa! Our plane landed in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso on the 25th September 2007 at around 16:30. We got through baggage claim and customs without problem and were picked up by Alan Dixon SIM Burkina director.

We originally thought we were set for 6 weeks of orientation in Ouagadougou, however that was a misunderstanding and orientation will take place at a later date in Fada N'Gourma. We also found out that the house waiting for us in Fada has no furniture in it and that we should buy basics in Ouaga as the shops in Fada are not very helpful.

We took a week in Fada buying a fridge (230 000 CFA) and a cooker (200 000 CFA) a mattress (91 000 CFA) and other things including a water filter, mosquito nets and washing bowls, cutlery, plates and glasses. It all costs money and were are as lost as you are now with the CFA prices but we are slowly getting better. Basically divide by 655 for euros and then barter to a reasonable price.

The journey to Fada was "Praise God" uneventful, even with the 4x4 piled high with all our stuff. We spent another week in the Fada guest house while we shopped for other basics and waited for electricity to be connected up to our house. The final move was on the 10th October 2007. The Lewis family are now safely in a house in Fada N'Gourma, Burkina Faso. Please send post to: Mark and/or Carine LEWIS, SIM (Mission Protestante), BP65, Fada N'Gourma, Burkina Faso.

Here in Fada there is hope of ADSL in about 5 years time. So for now we only have dial up access at the mission base as the ONATEL phone company hasn't yet pulled a phone line as far as our house. We do however have 2 mobile phone numbers: +226 70060780 for Mark and +226 70060781 for Carine – Encouraging SMS's welcome.



Our House in Fada

As far as ministry is concerned so far we have met up with many pastors including those we wish to work alongside. We have also had a first meeting with the president of the local church denomination Amidou DOUNA. We will be meeting him again on Wednesday 17 of October

along with some of the key players and we will hopefully start mapping out the way ahead. Please pray for this as this is where everyone's expectations may collide, mix or build together.

The general frame set in Burkina is quite relaxed and we have had to adapt to the different time management recommendations. For example it took almost a day to get to know and then negotiate with the local steel smith/welder to discuss and order a high chair for Joshua. (10 000CFA)

Family is fine – Anaëlle and Joshua have both suffered from heat rash and we are all finding the temperatures quite high. (up to 37+ during the day and heavy). Carine is learning to cook with what you can find around here and is doing a good job. No stomach complications so far. Mark is fixing up the house so that the water pipes won't leak and the lights come on. We may build an exterior mosquito free sitting area.



Yamaha Dame V80 - "Yamdame"

Transport: So far we have been lent a Yamaha Dame v80 by some missionaries who live near by. It's a bit of a push to get the whole family on and we also have to share 2 crash helmets. But it does its job of getting us around. We are about to buy one for ourselves. We will be looking into other solutions too. Maybe a car who knows?

Well there we are for now folks, blessings all round thanks for your support and your prayers. Prayer subjects include all you have just read through.

Love you dearly in Christ, Mark Carine Anaëlle and Joshua.

Blog – We have put together a blog on <http://burkinafaso.grenoblechurch.org/> We are not entirely sure how often we will be able to update this from BF but we will try and post an article when we are next in Ouagadougou.

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