



The Northington Newsletter

MINISTRIES

TRANSFORMATIONAL

Drilling in the Gospel...



Please check out our website and blog at:
<http://www.transformationalministries.com>

Nearly two years ago I met a couple from Cameroon in the U.S. who were mutual friends with former Cameroonian missionaries who attended our church in Tal-



Drilling at a missionary farm for an irrigation well

lahassee, Florida. They were desperately in need of water to irrigate their farm in the Northwest Province, where they raised corn, pineapple and beans to support other Cameroonian pastors and missionaries.

At the time, Tiff and I didn't know we would be going to Cameroon to be missionaries ourselves, and we offered what counsel we could during our brief encounter in Florida.

Now we find ourselves on the other side of the Atlantic at their home where we recently installed a solar-operated pump in a drilled well. It's humbling to see how God brings things together in such a way to accomplish His purpose.

My first attempt at drilling wells in Cameroon was accompanied by numerous challenges and obstacles. Besides the usual difficulties encountered in transporting things over long

distances in Africa, we also struggled to find the correct materials for the work, some of which had to be fabricated. We made several changes to the mud rotary drilling method to improve the process and success of the well installation. One week and 30 meters later, we had succeeded in installing the well and pump.

A second ministry opportunity (continued on page 2)



Dropping the solar-operated water pump

WORK CONTINUES AMONG REFUGEES TO THE EAST

Well installations have continued in Eastern Cameroon where we were able to install two more hand dug wells thanks to the contributions of donors to Project Instill Hope (<http://216.177.136.28/content/view/6673/131/>).



Rope and washer pump

We are experimenting with

a new "country pump" to reduce well costs.



Easy to use and maintain

The Top Three...

Prayer Requests—Pray the Lord will provide...

An end to political turmoil and refugees in Africa	1
Christian leaders who will end corruption	2
Monthly supporters and project sponsors	3

Prayers Answered

Acceptance to ECHO Missionary-in-Residence Prog	1
Completion of four new wells	2
Renters for our home the next 6 months	3

Ministry Needs:

Well installation equipment and sponsors for community water development projects



Chad hangs with the crew as excavation continues in a hand dug well

DRILLING IN THE GOSPEL—(continued from page 1)

arose out of our connection at the farm. A nearby school for disabled children, known as the Center for the Empowerment of Females with Disabilities, was also in desperate need of water for the 32 physically and mentally handicapped students living at the facility.

In Cameroon, it is not uncommon for disabled children to be abandoned and even abused by their families and communities. They are often accused of possession, and sometimes are believed to be



The U.S. Ambassador and former prime minister visit the school



Tiff spends time with local children

serpents or other spirits.

Through an outreach program, the facility director, Sister Magdalene, and her staff are able to seek out and identify children in these desperate situations. The communities are educated about disabilities, and sometimes the children are brought back to the school to attend classes and learn about God's love and plan for their lives.

We had the privilege of meeting the U.S.

Ambassador and former Cameroonian prime minister during a visit while we were installing the well. Maybe they'll take an interest in our ministry....

We are still struggling to improve the water quality from the well we installed at the school. Please pray for wisdom as we attempt to clear up the water to provide drinking water for these children.



Unconventional carrying of water from a stream for making the drilling fluid

Celebrating Labor Day in Cameroon

We were introduced to a new idea of labor day on May 20th when the country of Cameroon and all its workers celebrated the joy and privilege of having a job. I proudly marched with our water development team, *Six-to-Six*. They earned their name for their dedication to working long hours to get the job done. In light of some recent projects, we may have to rename the team *Six-to-Midnight!*



The day's events consisted of speeches, marching, parades and meals with your co-workers.

The average annual income in Cameroon is \$1,080. The percent of the population earning less than \$1 a day is 17%. The average per capita income in the U.S. is \$44,970. Maybe we should celebrate labor day a bit more like Cameroonians...

Partners in Missions with Chad & Tiffany Northington

Ministry Account #179044

Yes, I/we want to support Chad & Tiffany in their ministry in [Cameroon, West Africa](#).

? I/We will pledge to contribute a monthly amount. \$25___ \$50___ \$100___ \$200___ Other___

? I/We want to receive their newsletters and updates: ___ via e-mail ___ via US mail.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____

ZIP _____

E-mail Address _____

Please Detach Slip and Return with Contribution to:

Baptist General Conference

Attn: Debbie Castic

2002 S Arlington Heights Road.

Arlington Heights, IL 60005

847-228-0200, Ext. 3230

800-323-4215

dcastic@baptistgeneral.org



Chad Assists with the Survey of a Proposed Scenic Trail in Banyo

The Adamawa Province where we live has been called the least developed region in the country. It is not exactly a touristic “hot spot”, so we were thrilled here the government was supporting a project to build a trail to the top Mt. Djumbal. The mountain is the backdrop at our home and is also the source of the spring water that feeds the gravity flow system to town.



Climbing Mt. Djumbal to find a path for the proposed scenic trail

Chad had the pleasure and honor of assisting a team with the survey of a potential trail for a meter-wide footpath to the summit, where the beauty of the trail is complimented with a little history. When the British invaded during World War I, the German-occupied town was a destina-

tion of the British soldiers. The Germans fled to the mountain top where they constructed machine gun nests and rock shelters and cisterns. Nearly 100 years later, remnants of this period still remain towering above the town of Banyo.

The proposed trail will ensure the preservation and enjoyment of this historic place for generations to come and perhaps will bring more “press” to an area of Cameroon desperately in need of a little attention by both the Cameroonian government and international community.



Rock shelter with holes for German rifles

Adopt a Village—Join the Cause

When I inherited this water ministry from my predecessor, I also inherited a stack of applications for hand dug wells and gravity flow water systems. They say future wars will be fought not over oil but instead will be fought over water rights. Seeing the overwhelming need for water in just one part of Africa, I can see where this could be a reality in the not-so-distant future.

To help ensure the sustainability of water ministry projects, we follow a model that requires the village to contribute “in kind” for a portion of the work. Stones

are gathered and “cracked” to make gravel, sand is collected from local rivers and a committee is formed to guide the decisions and maintenance of the well or gravity flow system. This creates a sense of ownership in the project that may be lacking otherwise.

I have witnessed projects completed by development organizations that have failed because of this lack of participation and sense of ownership. Sometimes the problem lies in the appropriateness of the technology. A sophisticated system involving electric pumps, chemicals and

“...I was thirsty and you gave me a drink.”

-Matthew 25:36



A billion people lack access to clean water

a multitude of maintenance tasks is surely not sustainable in a village environment, but we still witness thousands of dollars wasted on systems like this.

After six months of water ministry projects in Cameroon, we have developed a much better sense of what is sustainable and appropriate. We would like to invite you to join us in taking water to those who are waiting. We are looking for those who are searching for a specific cause to contribute to and want to be



Chad & Tiff receive some traditional threads during a visit to a village in need of water

involved with the ministry they are supporting. I would like to propose the “Adopt a Village” program. Much like adopting an orphan through programs like “Compassion”, we would like to link donors with a specific village that has shown initiative in bringing water to their village. If you are interested in partnering with us, please e-mail directly for more details at info@transformationalministries.com.

TRANSFORMATIONAL MINISTRIES

B.P. 50
Banyo, Adamawa
CAMEROON

Phone: 237-74-45-04-01
Skype ID: cdnorthi
Email: ctnorthington@yahoo.com

*Reaching the Unreached one need
at a time...*

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide for the material, spiritual, and social needs of those who need it most through sustainable, transformational development. The Gospel is the source of lasting transformation and offers a plan for a holistic and integrated approach to community development and world change.



We're on the web!

<http://www.transformationalministries.com>

The Next Six Months (and Beyond)

We are thrilled to announce that we have been accepted to the Educational Concerns for Hunger Organization (ECHO) Missionary-in-Residence Program in Ft. Myers, Florida. ECHO is a Christian non-profit that serves as a resource center for missionaries and development workers serving in the tropics in the areas of agriculture or appropriate technologies.

In addition to their Global Farm, where they demonstrate different tropical farming techniques, they also have their own seed bank, library and a recently-constructed appropriate technologies building. Chad will serve as a full-time volunteer on their staff while Tiffany assists part-time and furthers her education to improve her ability to diagnose and treat patients in the field.

We had the pleasure of spending two weeks at ECHO before leaving for Cameroon last year. During that time, we fell in love with the vision and people who serve there. We attended their annual conference and met people who were doing amazing things around the globe. ECHO also offers short-term independent study and work programs that we would

highly recommend if you are considering overseas work in the tropics or are already involved with this kind of ministry.

ECHO will provide for our housing during our stay, but we are expected to live on support to cover the rest of our expenses. Serving on ECHO's staff will allow us the flexibility needed to continue our monthly support raising efforts and missionary training upon our return to the States. With the BGC opening an office in Orlando, we will now only be a couple hours from BGC staff.

We will also be attending Missionary Assessment Training in February as one of the requirements for joining the BGC as long-term missionaries. Fortunately one of the new training locations for 2009 is in Bradenton, Florida, the same city Chad's family moved to at the end of last year.

During our training, we will share a presentation on how God has led us to pursue missions, participate in a variety of small group exercises and simulations, interact with a number of trained assessors, learn from various testing instruments and be

interviewed by a professional counselor. We will be provided with feedback on our strengths and areas for growth. We also expect them to tell us how crazy and dysfunctional we really are(=

As we enter the second half of our first term of ministry, we will be refocusing and redirecting our time and energies somewhat to prepare for the long haul in the mission field.

Language study is probably at the top of list. Unfortunately there are no "Fulfulde Language Learning Schools", so self-study and work with language trainers will occupy more of our time until our departure at the end of the year.

With water work slowing down as the rains begin to flow and the funds run dry, we will spending more time in our local community in Banyo. We will be continuing to develop relationships in our new African community while assisting with transformational development projects in the areas of agriculture and animal husbandry. Tiffany will continue in her role at the hospital, and Chad will continue assisting with the Banyo gravity flow water system.