

March 2014 #46

A Day in the Life...

Dear Friends,

It is time for me to return to Ghana after spending four months in the USA for medical treatment. By the time you are reading this I will be home with Julie and our children. Before I go, I need to bring to a close the stories of my stay here in the USA. My trip would have been incomplete if I hadn't come to Ohio to visit with old friends, and make new ones. I consider Ohio my "second home".

First, I'd like to thank Ben Geary, who works for Southwest Airlines, and provided me with "buddy passes" to make my travel from Texas to Ohio free. I left Texas, where it was a little cold and easily endurable for me, to arrive in Ohio in one of your worst winters. For the two weeks that I stayed in Lorain it was the warmth of friends that helped me survive. Meanwhile, Pastor Jimmy had to 'crank up' his heater for my comfort. Thanks to God, Jimmy had kept the electric blanket that I used when I was here in 1993/1994 in the closet of my room. Yes, I consider Pastor Jimmy's second bedroom as my room. I have always enjoyed the time I spent in Ohio and staying with my dear friend, Pastor Jimmy.

My medical treatment in Texas has gone well, and I am enjoying a significant improvement in my health. This was tested on two occasions when I decided to help shovel snow (not something I get to do at home). I was able to shovel more than 5 in. of snow away from Pastor Jimmy's back door, to allow for guests to come to visit, and to help Pastor Jimmy when his car got stuck in the snow. I must say, you Ohioans are very "brave" driving in all of that snow.

I was sad that on one Saturday when I was supposed to go out to Sandusky to meet with my friends & the Pastors at The Chapel, the snow was so bad (white-out conditions) that The Chapel had to cancel their Saturday services for the safety of everyone. I very much missed seeing all of my Sandusky friends! But snow could not contain the miracles that God had planned. A woman from The Chapel is the 'adoptive Mom' of Gloria, a handicapped teen in Akrapa. In 2009 she worked with Invacare (Elyria) to have a new wheelchair donated for Gloria. I took it home with me then. Since then, the terrain in Ghana has broken that chair, and by God's grace, Gloria's adoptive Mom was able to work again with Invacare. I will be going home from this trip with another brand new, donated, wheelchair for Gloria. Praise God!

This visit to Ohio was 'short, but sweet,' as you say. I was blessed to see old friends like Pastor Woody & Peggy, and many, many more from our congregation. I was so happy to meet new members of the congregation, some so interested in the mission and providing new ideas to help. The Sunday I preached was another terrible snow day, and yet so many of you came out to support me. Thank you. It was wonderful to see ALL of you!!

Before I end this, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all who contributed generously to make my travel to the USA again possible! I continue to feel humbled by this support. And thank you also, to those who continue to give generously to The Ghana Fund. I could not do any of this without your support, love and trust! Akrapa thanks you!

Thank you (Meda Ase) - Pastor Ben