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Jason, Emily & Savannah Atkins

CONSTRUCTION *by Emily*

The solar construction is humming right along. This past month Jason has been working on getting all of the little things done that need to be finished before we can mount the first panel. Most of those little things have to do with the security system - when you're installing a \$60,000 solar power system you don't want to take any chances!

Currently, three of the four security cameras are mounted and sending footage to a monitor in our kitchen. Jason has been working on a fence that will go around the top of the support structure so that the only way to get to the panels will be to go up through a trap door in the bottom of the controller room and then up through another trap door in the top. Jason designed the trap doors with a unique locking system that makes them incredibly hard to break into and all of the workers have been marveling at his creativity.

Jason also welded together a giant 200 pound rack to hold the batteries, and it was quite a task getting it up into the controller room! Luckily it was done before they built the last wall ☺

Just this past week Jason and his crew buried PVC pipe to run power cables from the new system across the youth center, and they spent a whole day pulling the giant cables through all of those pipes. With the wiring in, it's really starting to feel like the system could be pumping out power soon.

In the next month Jason hopes to get the security fence and razor wire installed and start getting the solar panel mounts welded together.



Hoisting a giant steel I beam up to the top of the solar structure



Teamwork!



Hmmm, how are we going to get this 200 pound battery rack up here



Pull!



Digging the trenches to lay the pipe that will hold the wiring for the solar power system



Getting ready to feed the wire into the underground pipes



Pulling the last cable at the end of the day

continued...

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Jason & Emily Atkins

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How many guys does it take to fix a disconnected cable?



Sometimes when the pipe doesn't fit between the rebar you have to make a few adjustments with a hacksaw ☺



The solar controllers mounted on the wall of the controller room. Another step closer!

FAMOUS AUTHORS ABOUND *by Emily*

I'd like to send out a big thank you to everyone who volunteered to write for our English curriculum. I've been emailing assignments; and letters, articles, and poems have been pouring in! Who knew you guys were so creative ☺ Of all of the emails that I got from people offering to help, this one was my favorite:

*"Don't know if I can help you out,
I'd like to try without a doubt.*

*Let me have a topic or two
And I'll see what I can do.*

*One thing I have is lots of time
To play with words would be just fine.*

*Ask God what He would have you do
With an old lady who loves Him too."*
-Peggy Frederick



Bodi teaching some of our level two students



One of our English teachers Ancelminho, helping a student

I've been working on improving the English curriculum several hours each day and with your help I'm making real progress! If any of you would be interested in coming over to teach for a semester, we'd love to have you!

THE FEUCHTS HAVE ARRIVED *by Emily*

Many of you remember our friend, Erica, who spent six months in Bissau with us in 2007. After her time here, she went back to the States and got married, and now she and her husband, Jason, (and their Great Dane, Sheba) are back in Guinea-Bissau. They're planning on being here for the next four years, working with the local church on lots of projects ranging from construction to basic health training. They're living in Bissau and we're looking forward to having some Americans in the same city to hang out with.

GOD HEARS YOU! *by Emily*

I'll never be able to express how blessed we are by your prayers! You pray for our safety, you pray for our health, you pray for our projects, and you even pray for our car! Thank you so much. This past month we were all really sick. It was hard to see my 11-month-old's fever shoot up above 103° and not know what to do (especially when my judgment was also impaired by my own 103° fever). Thank you to everyone who said a prayer for us when you got the email that we were sick and headed to get tested for Malaria. I could literally feel peace in my spirit and it was such a blessing to know that God was taking care of us! During the rainy season sickness abounds, and besides those few days of fever, some runny noses and a stubborn heat rash, we've been so healthy. God watches over and protects us in a million ways everyday because of your prayers for us and our ministry – keep it up!!! ☺



Jason and Erica Feucht and their Great Dane, Sheba

Jason + Emily



That's right, baby girl is crawling... everywhere



Munching on her rubber ducky with some friends