

Ministering in Guinea-Bissau
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**Jason & Emily
Savannah, Nathaniel Atkins**

New Travel Dates! By Emily

When we sent out our last newsletter I thought I'd be typing this at my desk in Bissau, in front of a fan and listening to the sounds of pigs, goats, chickens, and children playing outside. Little did I know that a shipment of equipment from England would be delayed and the day before we were planning on packing the shipping container Jason would be in the hospital in excruciating pain with a kidney stone! Praise the Lord that the stone passed, and the equipment arrived this week.

We're going to be packing up the shipping container on Wednesday, November 13, and getting on a plane to start our journey back to Bissau on November 17. Please pray that we would be able to make all of turns required between now and then, and have the energy to say goodbye well to the people we love. Then, as we get back to Bissau, pray for patience, health, and the emotional energy to transition with open arms as we unpack our apartment and get everything rolling again.

Every few weeks or so we send out a short prayer update via email. If you don't get these emails and you would like to know how to pray for us and to hear about the cool ways God is answering your prayers, please send me an email and let me know – EmilyMarieAtkins@gmail.com

Time to Get Rolling! By Jason

It's been great being in the U.S. this summer, but we are chomping at the bit to get back to Bissau and get rolling on all of the projects waiting for us. One of the ones we're most excited about is the drinking water filter factory project we're helping with. The project is being run by a chemist from California, named Richard. When God woke him up and told him to visit Africa, he wasn't sure why. It didn't take him long in Guinea Bissau to realize what a problem it is for so much of the population not to have clean drinking water. Water born diseases are mostly treated by rest and drinking clean water – but if you don't have any water available other than the water that made you sick, that's not easy!

The U.N. has done lots of work to drill sealed wells with pumps all over. This kind can't be contaminated so easily. In a meeting with them last year, we heard them talking about how clean water coming from the well isn't enough when the water is taken home in contaminated buckets, and then drunk by dipping shared cups in the jars. The filter factory's goal is to produce household filters that will be cheap enough to afford but still be effective.

The project has purchased land, and when we return we're excited to be able to help with their construction project, as well as building some of the equipment the factory will use.

Continued...



Enjoying a bit of fall weather before we head back to the land of perpetual summer - playing her harmonica in a pile of leaves.



Savannah reading to Nathaniel. Those two already have a ball together!



Packing up a container for this many people means we receive lots of shipments! All of this arrived in just one morning.

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The Shipping Container Cometh!

By Jason

We are almost done collecting and packing all of the equipment and supplies to fill our shipping container. The container is the size of a semi trailer without wheels, so it can fit a lot! We've been blessed to have the opportunity to be in the U.S. to do the legwork collecting all of the stuff for it and packing it all up. The timing worked out great because we were able to partner with several other organizations working in Guinea Bissau who needed to send equipment at the same time as well!

The contents are quite diverse!

- Loads of machine shop and metal fabrication equipment for our shop,
- A wood chipper that will be used to grind rice hulls, and a mold set that will form clay and the rice hulls into water filter vessels for the drinking water filter factory that our friend Richard is starting,
- A walk behind tractor with implements to help with the agricultural work Youth With a Mission is doing in cooperation with the church in the eastern region of Guinea Bissau, and
- Welders and metalworking equipment for the WAVS welding school north of Bissau.

Although it's been a crazy amount of work finding deals, transporting equipment, building crates, and arranging all of the shipping/finances, we're honored by your support which not only enables what God is doing through us, but also to help others working in Guinea Bissau to further the Gospel as well!

God willing, the container will arrive here empty and leave, shoved full, for Africa on November 13.

Jason + Emily



I collected packing peanuts and made Savannah her very own "moving swimming pool." Both kids loved it!



Four months already! What a handsome little guy!

Three! By Emily

This month we celebrated Savannah's third birthday. As she gets older it's so fun for us to get to know her and to see her little personality bloom. She loves all things related to princesses so we spend a lot of time talking about having a kind, loving, and thankful heart – the things that make a real princess. She does an amazing job with that and is truly a joy to be around.

She can't wait to read, so we spend some time everyday playing games with letters – matching them, making their shapes with our bodies, making their sounds, and blending their sounds together. We've also been memorizing Bible verses, mostly using songs, and it's amazing for me to hear her shouting, "I can do anything through Him who gives me strength," as she runs triumphantly through a huge pile of leaves ☺

She is really looking forward to getting back to Bissau, seeing our dog, and showing off her baby brother; and even though she's already doing well with greetings and a few simple questions, I can't wait to hear her really take off and start chatting up a storm in Portuguese Creole.

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