

# Merry



# Christmas

# Cox Newsletter

December 2013

Broadcasting God's salvation and instructing  
believers in Christ-like living in Africa

## Frequently asked questions about our move to Kenya

**When do you move?** Paul's last day of Station Director is December 31. January will be a transition month. The plan is for everyone to be in Kenya early February.

**Will the kids have a chance to say good-bye? YES!**

Lord willing by the time you are reading this the kids are in Benin for their Christmas break. We will be doing a bit of traveling as well as hostessing in order to say goodbyes and bring closure. The kids fly back to Kenya early January to start school.

**Where in Kenya will you be living?** The goal is to live within two hours of the airport and forty-five minutes of the Rift Valley Academy (RVA), where the kids go to school. There is not housing available near RVA so the kids will still be boarding. We are still small town dwellers at heart, hence we hope to avoid Nairobi. We have targeted Limuru and Naivasha as potential places, but we will see what God has for us.

**What will Donna do?** Donna's first priority is to be there for the kids. Those of you that know Donna well, know that she will be involved with children in some capacity. We will let you know what God opens up for her.

**Who will replace Paul?** That is a great question and we do not know the answer. There is a wonderful team on the ground here in Benin that already handles the daily operation. For now the Director of Africa Regional Support Services, Sharon Diehl, will be the interim Station Director. What about another engineer? TWR is pursuing a few options and we will see what the Lord does. If the Lord has been speaking to you about missions maybe now is the time to apply.

**What about the NGO status and shortwave license?** For those of you who have been following us through the years you know that neither of these has moved very quickly. Hence it is quite possible that these will continue to be slow processes. By God's grace, Paul is hoping to complete a few more steps on the NGO before leaving to help the transition be a bit cleaner.

**Who will teach the Kennedy Children?** Fiona will resume teaching her children. She would love for God to provide a teacher. Does anyone feel the Lord's leading to move to Benin?

**What will happen to the Under the Mango Tree Kids Club?** There is a wonderful group of leaders that God has provided over the last several years. Three Beninois are very committed to continue leading with the help of an expat. God has provided monetary funds to help with the cost for sometime into the future.



*Miriam, Micah Joy, Nehemiah, Donna & Paul  
enjoying coconuts on the beach. It is a little  
warmer in Benin than the USA during Christmas.*





*Micah Joy, Paul, Nehemiah, Miriam & Donna*



## Visitors and Container

### Looking Back (2013), Looking Forward (2014)

#### Donna's Perspective

Several years ago my sister, Joy, challenged me to seek God and pick a one word theme for spiritual growth for that year. I can never pick one and usually have two or three words for each year. 2013 was the year for growing in thankfulness and trusting. As I reflect on this past year all I can say is WOW! I have learned so much about being thankful and trusting in God. Two words that I thought were so different really go hand in hand. The more thankful focused I have become the more trusting I have become. One area of trusting has been our move to Kenya. We have received many positive responses and we are so thankful for the outpouring of support. This new year is certainly bringing some new beginnings. However, Benin and all that it entails will always be near and dear to our hearts.

#### Paul's Perspective

I have never been much of a New Year resolutions type person. I lean more toward a constant evaluation of life and adjust as I go along. However, last year I was inspired by Joy and Donna so I picked a one-word theme for 2013: Sing. There have been two songs that I have sung often this year: Come thy Fount of Every Blessing and How Firm a Foundation. My favorite line from Come thy Fount of Every Blessing is the opening line: "Come thy fount of every blessing tune my heart to sing thy praise." I am realizing just how much I need God to tune my heart. The last line of the last verse (at least in my hymnal) from How Firm a Foundation is: "That soul (referring to those who have leaned on Christ), though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake." What will be my word for 2014? I do not know yet, I am not sure I have yet to master my word for 2013.

It is always exciting to have visitors come to Benin. In December Sid and Betty Kamp will be in Benin for the third Christmas work trip to Benin. They always bring a wonderful spirit, lots of laughter and strong backs. This year they are bringing a little extra (well, they are not quite bringing it and it is not little). TWR Canada has sent a 40-foot container with two new tractors, supplies and lots of other goodies. Sid and Betty were very instrumental in the project; they literally packed the container in the USA and hope to help unpack it here in Benin. Currently the container is traveling across the ocean on its way to Benin. Pray that there are no delays with shipping and everything goes smoothly with customs.

In addition to Sid and Betty, we are welcoming Brian Martin to Benin. He has worked with TWR in Guam and will be joining the Benin team for six months. Brian is a diesel mechanic so we are very excited to have him. Please pray for Brian as he seeks the Lord for direction after his six months in Benin are done.

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