

GARVIE GREETINGS



Issue 14

November 2016



Winter greetings from Jos. While the produce may not resemble holly berries and ivy, we have certainly been enjoying the colours of Christmas here in Jos. Tomato season has come in abundance, but with Christmas comes a rise in prices. We continue to enjoy our new surroundings and are finding our way about more easily now.

We are grateful for the provision of a car, and are now in the process of verifying our ownership documents, which is an education in itself!

The children continue to work well at school and are busy fundraising for their Christmas project: to stock a library for a local orphanage.

Donald continues to settle in at the library at JETS, developing the online catalogue and managing generous donations of books from overseas. The annual graduation is in a few weeks, so preparations are underway. Much celebrating is to be had in December!

Postal address

Mr Donald GARVIE

c/o ECWA / SIM

PMB 2009

Jos

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NIGERIA



We have been struck by many of the national issues repeatedly broadcast on the news in recent months and would appreciate your prayers for the country of Nigeria.

Economic Recession

When we left for Ankpa in 2013, we were able to exchange our £1 for 285 Naira. On our return to Jos, because the currency has weakened substantially, we are now able to get N510 for each pound. While this helps donations to go further, the cost of imports has all but doubled. Many wages continue to remain at original levels, despite the cost of some food doubling in price. Food that was once a basic commodity, has now become a luxury item. Average monthly salaries are around N30,000 (£60), while a month's bag of rice is now N25,000 (£50). Many are struggling and there is little national help available. Please pray.

Chibok Girls

Praise God for the release of more girls from the hands of Boko Haram. Please continue to pray for those held and for the many others who are suffering as a result of the actions of this terrorist group.

Rehabilitation from capture is not easy. While some are protected, there have been stories of media exploitation, family rejection and isolating stigma attached to those returning from capture. We cannot understand their circumstances fully, and there is doubt over the validity of reports. Still, please pray God would provide for those recovering from these ordeals and restore them not only emotionally, but also restore them to their communities as well as to himself.

Praise God that there is some return of groups to the North East. In particular, please pray as ECWA send missionary pastors to minister and support Christians in this difficult part of Nigeria.

Give thanks

- For God's provision for our needs and for time to rest over the Christmas break
- For ECWAs plans to resend church leaders to Northern Nigeria

Please pray...

- Salvation, hope and restoration may be found in and through Jesus amidst many desperate situations
- Those working with IDPs would not be without funds and resources to help bring relief
- People would be lovers of God not lovers of money
- For a heavenly perspective for God's people in Nigeria, where true justice will be known
- Gospel truths will be taught and understood as people question the prosperity gospel in the light of the recession

Justice

It has been difficult to read of prosecution of several national Supreme Court Justices, over corruption at such a high level. Nigeria is sadly known for its corruption but to see it so evident at this level of leadership it is difficult to see what hope those at grassroots have of being free of corruption, or of being discouraged from following their leaders' example. Please pray for Godly leaders for this country, and that in their distress, people would turn to the true King.

Internally displaced people (IDPs)

Due to the crises caused by Boko Haram and tribal conflict, many have fled their homes. Nigeria has well over 2 million IDPs within its own borders, in search of security and relief from persecution. Some charities have warned of famine in the north in the coming months and shortages in relief for those travelling in search of a place to settle. Please pray God's people would respond to the needs of those in crisis and that charities would be protected as they try to reach and assist those in need. Please pray those seeking shelter in new places will not suffer new forms of persecution and abuse as they attempt to re-establish their families. For those without family or support, please pray help would be found.

As we celebrate Christmas in a broken world, we praise God that he has not left us without hope or without his company. We hope you have an enjoyable time with family and friends, that you, like the shepherds, may...

"Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord".

Luke 2v10&11

From the scrapbook

Off to market,
with a boot full
of chickens!



Matthew trying out one of the
local taxis.
Fully air conditioned!



Animal, mineral or
vegetable?
Still not sure if we
eat it, cook it
or feed it!

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