

# September Update

*“(I’m) confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”*                      *Philippians 1:6*



Chicken Variety Night



Gyero Girls



Rainy season garden

Ministry Transition: The past two months have been a real time of searching and seeking God’s wisdom for my life and ministry. I have struggled with my ministry at the hospital these past few months and feel that God is closing the door on that ministry and opening the door to another more fruitful ministry. It has been hard to close this chapter of my life because ministering to the needs of the patients at the hospital has been my focus for the past eight years. I treasure all the relationships I have made during my time there and all the wealth of information and connections that will benefit me in my future ministries.

At this time I plan to focus my attention on Healing Touch, pressure garments for burn patients. This ministry is still in the beginning stages and needs a lot of effort put into awareness. There are still several hospitals and clinics that need to be visited and different strategies developed to reach communities inside and outside of Jos, Nigeria. The start-up of a new ministry takes a lot of work and a lot of patience especially in Nigeria where things do not move fast. The number of people that sustain burns in this country is huge. So many people are left with scars and contractures because they don’t understand how important treatment is for good healing or they don’t have access to good treatment. Pressure garments are a brand new type of scar prevention or reduction for this country. I feel like this is a huge need and has the potential to be a great ministry that will touch the lives of so many people. I am praying for God’s guidance as I press forward in this ministry.

Chicken Variety Night: There is never a dull moment at our compound. Two guys bought a chicken and built a pen for it in the backyard. It does not stay in the pen all of the time, but at least it has not escaped outside our gate. Sunday night was the night the guys decided the chicken would become our dinner. Their plan was for each person to take a part of the chicken and cook it in whatever way they wanted. They seemed to be all caught up in the chicken that they did not think much about anything to go with the chicken. So, we will call it a meat feast. We had all varieties of chicken-fried chicken, tandoori chicken, chicken and rice casserole, and

chicken in a Thai sauce. Two of us brought rice and one brought some salad, so it ended up not being all meat. There were some parts of the chicken none of us wanted to eat. So it was cooked into a pepper soup, as the Nigerians call it, and served to the guard. We made his night!

Drivers License At Last: I remember when I had to renew my driver's license in the U.S.A. I would take my old license, fill out the paperwork, let them take my picture and then pay them the renewal fee. I would wait for them to print out the license or sometimes I would have to go back and pick it up. But that was all and off I went with my new license. Well, let me give you a little insight into the process of license renewal in Nigeria. My license expired in January this year. There was no way to renew it at that time because the office was on strike. I ended up having to wait three months until the strike ended. I took my paperwork to the office, but then I was told that they are in the process of switching to a new system and they do not have a code for expatriates yet. So, about a month later I go back and find that they now have a code and I get through the next step in the process. I am told to come back in two weeks to pick up the printed paperwork. I come back and for some reason they cannot find my paperwork. When the man leaves to go talk with another staff, I look and find my paperwork on the top of the stack. I think they were confused by my American name. I am then written a bill that I will take to the bank to pay the fee. I send one of our Nigerian office staff to go and pay the bill for me. Now there is only one step remaining. I just need to go and get my picture taken and then the license can be printed. I go back only to find there is no light so they cannot take the photo. I then hear from a friend that the camera is broken so it is best to wait two weeks before I go back again. After two weeks and another trip in which I find there is no light again to take a photo, I finally make it through. I get my photo taken and my license printed. But this is just a temporary paper copy to use until the final license is printed. So, I will go back in two months to pick up the final license. So you see, the whole process of license renewal for me was eleven months. Patience is a good character trait to have if you are living in Nigeria!

### Prayer Request:

- Pray for a good transition out of the hospital and into Healing Touch. I am also considering helping with girl's ministry in our Gidan Bege ministry.
- Pray for good connections with hospitals, clinics and doctors, as I go out and do awareness for Healing Touch.
- Pray for the staff and children at our care center in Lafia, Nigeria. It was burned to the ground and all belongings lost, but no injuries. PTL! Pray for us as we try to rebuild.
- Pray for Emma, the fourteen year old boy found abandon and living alone in the bush for most of his life. He is now staying with an American missionary family here in Jos and will be able to go to Open Doors Handicapped School.

Gay Lynn