

# THE W.A.M. REPORT

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## AFRICA AT LAST

After a five-hour flight from Paris we arrived in Ouagadougou (WA-GA-DOO-GOO), Burkina Faso. The heat wasn't as bad as we had expected—only 95° F. The rainy season had started and cooled things off a bit. It now rains every 3–4 days, including today. The temperature is a refreshing 75°. Some of us have jackets on!

## AFRICA ORIENTATION COURSE

Our first week we (21 new missionaries with 8 kids) lived on the Wycliffe Center getting to know each other, beginning classes on tropical health care and adjusting to the new climate. Most of us were sick a few days with traveler's diarrhea as our bodies reacted to the heat and stresses of changing cultures. A week later we piled into a bus and rode four hours down to the town of Banfora. Here we live in a compound of concrete block buildings in a horse-shoe shape configuration. In the middle of the courtyard are tables where we eat every meal together outside. We have no electricity here, but there are showers and outhouses!

## AFTER WALC

On the 19th of August we will fly out to Ouagadougou and after a day layover in Ivory Coast, we will fly on to Brazzaville where we will stay for about a month getting to know the area and people. September 20th we will fly to Bangui, Central Africa Republic for our six months of training in doing language survey.

## PRAISE & PRAYER

- *Praise* for a good level of French which we are able to use daily with the Burkinabees and with other missionaries.
- Wendy's feet and back are continuing to do well in the new stresses and heat.
- Please *pray* that we continue to have the Lord's wisdom as we adjust to this culture/lifestyle.

## CULTURE CORNER

Man and wife holding hands in public is inappropriate, but between two male friends it is seen as normal.

Relationships and greetings are high priority. You don't just say hello and then get down to business.

When greeting

in French:	in Julia:
Hello	Hello
How are you?	Did you sleep well?
How is your health?	How is everyone at home?
How is your family's?	How is your husband/wife?
	How are your children?

- Please *pray* for safety in traveling to the village and then on to Congo August 20th, and then to Central Africa Republic September 20th.

Each morning after breakfast and a time of singing and prayer we walk through town to our *classroom*. During this walk we practice greeting the people who are in the outside markets or alongside the road selling mangos, bananas, dried fish, rice, live chickens and goats, spices, tomatoes, and avocados, just to name a few. We are learning to speak some Julia which is a common language used between the many different language groups. Most of the people welcome our efforts with big smiles as they see us try to speak their language.

**THANK YOU** for your participation in this ministry through your prayers, your gifts and your encouragement. It has been a long road, but we are finally here to begin helping in the work of giving God's Word, the Bible, to those who do not have it in the language that speaks to their heart.

Your partners in Bible translation,

*Michael & Wendy*

Michael and Wendy Buchanan

## Addresses:

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