



2021 Outreach Guinea Bissau



We are BACK!!!!!!

It's been a while since we updated you on what's happening with the Bickley's.

In August we traveled to West Africa to the country of Guinea Bissau. The purpose of this trip was to prepare for our Foursquare Disaster Relief Medical team to return in late November or January to do a medical outreach. During this time we met with the Foursquare National Leader of Guinea Bissau, Pastor Vincent Douza deDouza. Our discussions focused on the communities and pastors that would benefit from the medical attention the most.

In addition to providing medical evangelism these trips help us develop and train our medical team in Foursquare Disaster clinic protocols. We also train the local medical volunteers. We submitted our licenses and paperwork with the Ministry of Health for permission to practice. We were able to visit several hospitals and meet with the administrators in preparation for referrals if needed. That's the boring stuff but a very needed step before coming.

Keith and I traveled with Theresa Wood our Medical team leader which is always a delight to do. We are like family after so many trips abroad. What a blessing to find someone who is fun and flexible. (I have to say... Theresa and I can give Keith a few headaches as traveling buddies.)



During our time in Guinea Bissau, we met up with the " rainy season ", torrential rains didn't stop us from visiting an island of one of the pastors. At this time, we were visiting several different places for future clinics. We boarded a wooden boat and set across the ocean a short distance to do a wellness clinic. Most of the pastors that accompanied us didn't know how to swim and some had never been on a boat. We all came back soaking wet. Everyone was so good about not complaining on how cold and wet they were. We were able to deworm about 150 kids.

Of course, when you are visiting Foursquare Churches you are expected to speak at any and all services. Most of the week we spent our evenings in church. Keith learned a few dance moves I have never seen in 44 years in celebration of our last night there. The 3 1/2 hour service was worth seeing

the joy of the Lord on his face!!!

In preparation is returning to the US we went to the health department to get our Covid test. We stood out front for four hours waiting for our number to be called .While waiting we noticed a women limping and carrying a large basket of cucumbers on her head, taking the opportunity-to sell to the people waiting. "I just wished the basket had ice cream bars or carrot cake... " anyway , it was something we could munch on." After buying some cucumbers, I asked her if we could pray for her leg. She was eager for us to pray. The next day when we returned to the health department she came up to us and thanked us for praying. She said she had the best sleep ever and her leg didn't hurt. She still had a limp but no pain! I am praying that the Lord will continue to complete the healing!

We received our Covid test results late and had just enough time to reach the airport. Thirty-one hours later we arrived home tired and exhausted. We thought we had jet leg and not Covid since the results were negative. Surprisingly , 12 hours later we were SICK. We had no sense of taste or smell. It still didn't register with us that we had Covid. A couple of days later we actually tested positive for Covid. We were not aware of anyone in Guinea Bissau that was sick. The country has recorded very little Covid since the outbreak.



So for 2 weeks we took lots of naps and ate tasteless food! During our Covid stupor a forest fire swept through our area. We were called by several friends to get ready to evacuate at 12:30 in the morning. They said the fire was 2 miles away. Keith and I stumbled out of bed and put some clothes together and got our passports and a little cash and went back to bed. Of course, in our stupor we didn't wake anyone up and tell the other 7 residents on our farm that the fires was close. Again we received a text at 3:30am telling us the status of the fire and how much closer it was. I answered the text with a thumbs up and went back to sleep. At 5:30 am we received another call from a friend offering to help us pack. That's when I woke up

and thought maybe this is not a dream and I should pack more of the house hold stuff. We thank the Lord we didn't have to evacuate for the winds had shifted. We were on pins and needles the rest of the week watching the winds and the brave fire crews making a fire line around the perimeter of the fire. We are so grateful for Gods protection on us and on our family. We have experienced such a dry year. We had the hottest and longest stretch of 100 degree days ever recorded. I had very little water for my garden and yard. I am looking forward to rainy days and snow!!!!

We want to thank all who have faithfully been praying for us and supporting us during our times of "waiting for the doors to open". We continue to look for opportunities to share the good news here and abroad. The world needs hope and we have the answer!

We have a had a hard time staying home, especially during the recent Haiti earthquake. We were prevented from responding with our medical team because we had Covid. It was AMAZING to watch FDR Medical work with the local doctors and volunteers treating over 1700 earthquake casualties. Missionaries Matt and Anna Bryan and Mielene and Marcelo Dallabrida helped immensely for this to be successful. The greatest impact was to see 200 Haitians surrender their lives to Christ. Our US team trained Juloveney our local Haitian pharmacist along with the Haitian medical volunteers who will remain and respond to future disasters in Haiti. They were equipped with medicines and equipment to carry on the task. The team also encountered some dangerous situations but God intervened! A local gang member surprised the team as they were setting up the clinic. After much discussions with our team, he ended up helping and serving in the clinic for no payment. They were amazed to see how the Lord softened his heart. He was now ready to defend and not harm.

As you are praying for our next missions, please remember to pray for new team members. We are especially looking for Doctor's , PA's, and Nurse Practitioners. It is required for us to have Medical Provider to accompany us on our missions. We are always amazed at Gods provision and thank the Lord for you! Thank You for letting us be your hands and feet! We could not go and do if it wasn't for you.

We were asked recently how much does the medicines cost on these missions. After adding up the costs, we spend about \$2000 dollars a mission on medicines and equipment alone. Your giving really helps in practical ways. The most important thing is we need your PRAYERS. It is the fuel that keeps us going!!!!

As far as our Emissary work for leadership training, we are waiting for the Covid doors to open in the South Pacific. I can't wait to return and see our dear friends who are truly heroes of the faith!

Thank YOU! Keith and Cindy

Prayer Requests

- Pray for the those who have committed themselves to Christ.
- Pray for more medical professionals to join our team.
- Pray for funding for our medical supplies.
- Pray for our Emissary work in the South Pacific that doors will be open for discipleship and training of leaders.

Thank you for your support. <https://thehub.foursquare.org/prod/TheHub/bickley-keith-and-cindy/>
100 percent of your giving goes to our expenses while on the mission.