

# Seed and Harvest Burkina Faso



April 2009  
*Final Edition*

## Missing Missionaries Surface

We are in fact alive and well! And we do apologize for taking so long to get this newsletter out. Since it's been a while since we last wrote we have quite a few things to report to you. This will be our last letter to you all as World Concern fieldworkers—six years to the month from when we first sent a letter asking for your support of the crazy scheme to send us to Burkina Faso!

## To Burkina and Back Again

In early February Jonathan returned to Burkina for two weeks to help tie up various loose ends and bring closure to our ministry there. The trip was a bit of a whirlwind but very satisfying. Jonathan was able to do things to help ensure certain projects get finished, help organize the “stuff” we had left, and say some important *goodbyes* and *thank yous*.

## André Update

A highlight of Jonathan's trip to Burkina was spending time with André Tindano, who is continuing the agricultural training work at the CFBA. We count André among our dearest friends, and after living and working so closely together these last four years we really miss him. January marked one year on staff at the CFBA for André. Overall things are going well. In December he completed a training course in market gardening, adding to his trainings which include soil fertility and conservation, plant pest and disease management, techniques in agroforestry, grafting and poultry production. André, in turn, has been teaching the students at the CFBA and others what he has learned in these trainings. He says the response has been very good. Besides teaching he's been keeping busy starting up a chicken demonstration, installing a fence around the school's Moringa hectare, implementing a gardening project with the students, and preparing tree seedlings for the upcoming season—including a set of root-stock for grafting. The church's women's association has also called on him for several agricultural training sessions with their outreach efforts. Our hope for André is that he would know where to invest his efforts when presented with so many opportunities and that he would find support for the work and camaraderie amongst the staff of the CFBA. Please continue to pray for André, and his wife Lydie, as they serve at the CFBA.

## Vitamin Field Update

Last year we received a grant to implement a project to plant and fence-off an entire hectare (2.5 acres) of Moringa on the school's land. We seeded the field last rainy season but the trees did not germinate well. This year André is



*André prepares  
rootstock for grafting*

going to give it another try based on what we learned last year. He reports he has installed all the fence-posts around the field and is about to begin putting up the wire fencing. Then he will be ready to plant in June or July. The hope is to have protected Moringa available for the students to harvest and use, and potentially for the school to sell. Earlier this year André attended a regional development meeting in Fada. A nutritionist at Fada's public hospital gave a talk on Moringa and the importance of using this locally available resource for combating malnutrition. André shared the school's hope for having a field of Moringa, and the nutritionist assured him that the hospital would buy all the Moringa the school could produce!

## Chickens Report Profit



André reports the school's chicken demonstration is off and clucking. André taught a series of classes on poultry to the students and now they can see a more intensive chicken production strategy in

action. Nearly a third of the 50 chickens have already started laying and André has been successful in finding willing buyers for the eggs in Fada. André is thankful for the assistance of Foljoa (pictured above), the CFBA honey project manager, who is also very interested in agriculture and livestock improvements. Foljoa is in charge of the day-to-day operation of the demonstration which frees André up for other obligations. The demonstration should also provide André's salary and then some. The support of World Concern for André's salary ends in June, so those chickens better keep on cluck'n!

### Accountant Marries

October marked one year for Prospère Lankoande as CFBA accountant. The SIM Burkina accountant, Malcolm, has met to review business and coach Prospère over the past year and has been encouraged by some progress. And in a culture where age and position are so important, it hasn't been easy for Prospère to come in as a younger person and help get the school's accounts in order. Please continue to pray for Prospère and his important work in helping the school organize and use their funding wisely. Below is a picture of Prospère and his wife Josephine, newly married in September.



### CFBA Office Building

The office building has been in use now for some time while awaiting its finishing touches. With some available surplus funds we are able to leave the school with enough

money to finish the electrical system, ceilings, glass windows and screens, interior paint, and a front porch. Unfortunately the project dragged on, first because of Henry's problematic arrival, and later due to our early departure. The building will hopefully be completed soon and will be a blessing for the school for years to come.

### Final Frisbee Fling

Jonathan enjoyed spending some more time with the youth from the Bible study he led, joining them for Bible study on two Saturday nights, as well as playing ultimate frisbee with them on Sunday afternoons. Some of the youth are now at University, or teaching in other regions, some are contemplating marriage. It was exciting to see them growing up and to see a younger set coming in to the study. Friedhelm, a German colleague, is now leading the youth study. Pray for him as he seeks to nurture and encourage these young Burkinabé Christians.



### Mystery Solved

Over six months have passed since we left Burkina to pursue the mystery of Henry's swollen leg here in the U.S. After many visits to Seattle Children's Hospital we learned last week that he has a very rare condition called Klippel-Trenaunay Syndrome (KTS). The condition can include the following:

1. Capillary malformation—a dark birthmark and/or areas of mottled skin. Henry has both of these.

2. Lymphatic abnormalities—cysts, swelling. We don't know whether Henry has lymphatic issues. Hopefully we'll learn more about this.

3. Venous anomalies—dilated superficial veins. We don't yet see this in Henry.

4. Excessive growth of one or more limbs. Henry's right arm and right leg are bigger, and the MRI showed that this difference in size extends to his leg bones, which is typical of KTS.

There is no cure for KTS and it is a condition that will require lifelong management of symptoms. Blood clots and infections are common with KTS and can be very problematic. Most patients have pain and heaviness of the affected limbs. Difference in size of limbs, especially legs, can cause problems that may require intervention to interrupt the growth plate. The cause of KTS is unknown, although some suggest it results from a skin abnormality occurring during fetal development. There is no known association between food or medication during pregnancy and KTS, and some research is being done to find a specific gene mutation.

We have another appointment in May at Seattle Children's which hopefully will help us understand better the extent of the KTS condition in Henry's case. Fortunately, for now it seems he is very happy and without pain, and that, although he is behind on the development path, he is growing and progressing. He just learned to crawl several weeks ago, and he is changing a little bit every day. Thank you for your prayers for Henry.



## Seeing Black

Financially we have ended our service with World Concern very well, thanks to you, our team of supporters. Your gifts even enabled us to fund the completion of the CFBA office building and allow SIM's handicapped project to purchase our truck at a reduced price. We appreciate so much your generous giving to this ministry and as we bring closure to various aspects of work in Burkina, we are particularly sad to end our partnership with you all. Thank you so much.

If you need help cancelling an automatic debit or have other questions about giving, you can contact Ron Stoufer at World Concern: (206) 546-7201 or [rons@worldconcern.org](mailto:rons@worldconcern.org). After this last letter from us, you will begin to receive World Concern newsletters (8/year) plus the Global Gift Guide. You will not receive additional appeals unless you donate to World Concern. If WC has an email address, you will get an email newsletter instead of a paper one. If you do not wish to receive the newsletters, contact Ron Stoufer.

## Current Events

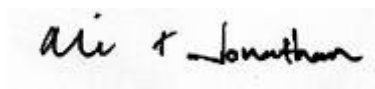
Upon returning from Burkina, Jonathan promptly had foot surgery, and then began his job search for a teaching position. In March we attended a week-long debrief and renewal retreat in Colorado, and in April Jonathan had nose surgery (deviated septum). He is still busy looking for a teaching job and we're encouraged that there are quite a few teaching jobs at Christian schools in the area to apply for.

We have ideas on attempting small-scale farming sometime in the future, and so Jonathan took advantage of an evening series on raising livestock offered by a local agricultural extension office. Ali is currently taking a series on beekeeping offered by the same extension office. And we're planning a big summer garden!

In May we will move to a different rental house, which is also very close to our home church and Jonathan's parents. Our email will remain the same; our mailing address will still be: 14411 SE 183<sup>rd</sup> St. Renton, WA 98058, and our cell phone is 425-652-6117.

Thank you for your prayers as we transition back to life in Seattle, and especially for Jonathan as he seeks a well-suited job. We look forward to keeping in touch with you all, and thank you again for ministering together with us these past several years.

Thanks be to God,



[aliandjonathan@yahoo.com](mailto:aliandjonathan@yahoo.com)



*We went to see the tulips!*



*Henry's first birthday bunny cake.*

