

# Nigerian Christian Children's Home



February 2021

Dear friends and family,

David said in Psalms 22 verse 22, "I would declare your name to my brethren. In the midst of the congregation I will praise you. You who fear the Lord praise Him." Certainly as we come back from a long stay in America we have reasons to praise His name. We have reasons to be thankful and they are many.

First we're thankful that we were able to make such a journey. All the blessings that we received while we were in America would take pages to list. The fact that we were able to be there to help bury my father was a great blessing. The fact that we were able to be of support to my sister and her husband in their time of need was a great blessing. The time that we were able to spend with our son was a great blessing. The journey mercies that we had on the way to and from San Antonio were a great blessing. The fellowship that we had with the congregation at North West and our dear friends the Massey's and the Locke's was a great blessing. The fellowship that we had with brethren in Saucer Creek, in Baldwin, in Alabama and Nashville and other places was a great blessing. All these things that we experienced while in America were blessings that warrant us giving thanks publicly. We are thankful for the love that was shown to us by many while we were in the US. For the many who gave extra gifts so that we could be able to travel and to do the necessary things we say thank you, both to you and to the God who uses you to bless us. We appreciate the opportunity to share meals together with family both spiritual and physical. We count it as very precious the few moments that we had, the memories we were able to build, and the ties of fellowship we were able to strengthen. We wish we could have had more time for more fellowship, but the needs of the children mandated our return.

We left America in the midst of a record-breaking winter storm. We thank God for safety as we traveled over snow covered roads. I know that many of you also struggled with the effects of this storm. We pray thanking God that everyone survived, though some with loss. It was a wakeup call for all who have become comfortable with the conveniences of modern living, and a reminder of how quickly life can change. Yesterday's temperature here was 100° so quite an adjustment for us. We're also struggling with changing of time and our body rhythms but this will all soon adjust.

What we saw when we came back to Africa is a reason for us to rejoice. We found our children healthy and well and the house in good order. This does not come easily and required the hard work and effort of many people. Without our being present everyone knew what they needed to do and they did it. They had challenges and they were many but they met them all by His grace. Two of the challenges had to do with the death of two sisters that we have been working with. One of them we had struggled with a long time. Sister Bassey with her family lived with us for more than 10 years before finally dying from the effects of the HIV virus. She leaves behind with us three sons and a daughter. I was proud of the effort the family made to give her a decent and befitting burial. May her soul Rest In Peace.

The term for school ended soon after our return. I was thankful that the children had done well in school while we were gone in spite of many challenges. They all made good effort and that is all a parent could ask for. We are thankful most of all for the efforts that the children made to continue to worship God both in our evening devotionals as well as our Sunday gatherings. We feed and fellowship a number of people on Sunday outside of our large family. Everyone was able to continue this ministry and fellowship. For that I am very very grateful especially for those young men who took leadership roles in work and worship.

I'm thankful that everyone was healthy when we returned. We had traveled thousands of miles, meeting many people in the midst of a pandemic that took many lives. Yet we were spared and we came home to find our children also spared and healthy. For that we are thankful

One of the things that I am most grateful for is for the new birth of three of our young children since our return. The first young lady who came to us requesting to be baptized has had a long and difficult journey in the 15 years of her life here on earth. She had been

sexually abused so badly that the government intervened on her behalf and God led them to place her with us. It has been a difficult adjustment for her but we're grateful that God has helped her heal and become an important part our family. We also had the daughter of late sister Bassey request baptism and our young nephew Goodluck. There is no greater joy for a parent than to see their children come to know their need for a savior, to be buried in the watery grave of baptism and rise to walk in a new life. We ask you to help pray for these babes and other young Christians that have been baptized in the last few months in our home. May they continue to dedicate their lives to the service of our master. May God bring people into their lives that will build them up and help give them the tools they need to be successful in life. We pray for their progress and for yours as well.

On our arrival we learn all the sudden death of our good friend George who died unexpectedly of Covid here and then cheerio to his family and many who suffered similarly. Our sincere condolences and prayers, may you find comfort needed in this hour of sorrow.

We have been working to do the many things necessary. There are so many task upon our return we are asking you to pray for strength and health and to have the necessary tools to face the task at hand. We plan to travel in country for the graduation of men who have prepared themselves to preach the gospel at Darrell Memorial Bible College at Obudu. Please pray for us as we make such a journey and for the good work that goes on with Brother Prince Ugbe and all those who support this good effort.

On the last day of February, 29 years ago we left America headed to a new adventure in Africa. We landed here first of March 1993. It's been a long and wonderful journey. God alone knew what lay ahead of us on that day. It is only by His grace that we have survived. He has used us in unexpected and wonderful ways. He has brought you into our lives so that we could do His Will together. We pray that He will continue to find us faithful and useful in His Kingdom. May He continue to strengthen the tie that binds us. May He give increase to you and your families. May you continue with us, to share the good news of His love and mercy in a world that is becoming increasingly in need of such. You may have heard of the recent kidnappings of school children here in Nigeria. Please pray for their safe return, and that God's Will be done. May our children, who live far away from these recent incidents, remain safe in the arms of Jesus.

We love you all. We rejoice in the midst of adversities, asking God to help us see His loving Hands at work on our behalf. May you have that same assurance and knowledge. He, who promised that even a cup of water given in His name to one of these little ones would not lose its reward, will reward you in His own time according to His will.

We love you and appreciate you, more than our feeble efforts to communicate it shows. May God continue to shine His face upon you.

Next time,  
Cliff, Nkiru and family