



AUGUST 2022

TRANSITIONS AND GOODBYES

Praise

- For the opportunity to be together as a family during our last weeks in Cameroon.
- For a safe journey to Canada and a beautiful place that we will make our next home.
- For faithful colleagues in Cameroon who continue the ministries and programs in Cameroon.

Prayer

- For wisdom to best pace ourselves in the months ahead.
- For Elianna as she starts university in a new country and culture.
- For Ysabelle as she enters her fourth and final year of university undergrad.

*For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works,
which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.*

EPHESIANS 2:10 (NRSV)

Something that most international workers are told during orientation is to be prepared for a life of “goodbyes.” We have come to experience and understand this well during the past 23 years. Colleagues and friends come and go, serving for various lengths of time, taking furloughs at different times and sometimes don’t return, whether planned or otherwise. Sojourn is another good word that describes the life of international workers:

sojourn

sō'jûrn", sō-jûrn'

intransitive verb

1. To reside temporarily.
2. To dwell for a time; to dwell or live in a place as a temporary resident or as a stranger, not considering the place as a permanent habitation; to delay; to tarry.

The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, 5th Edition.



At Elianna's graduation.

During the second week of June we celebrated Elianna's high school graduation and completion of five years at Rain Forest International School (RFIS). We're grateful for RFIS and the opportunity that both our girls had to attend. The difficult part of graduating from an international boarding school, of course, is the goodbyes at the



end, as friends and classmates scatter around the globe.



With CBC leadership at farewell event.

Ysabelle was able to return to Cameroon for Elianna's graduation. After the celebrations were over and goodbyes done, the four of us returned to Bamenda for one last week together in our Cameroon home. It was a good week together as a family reminiscing and saying goodbye to dear friends and colleagues. The Cameroon Baptist Convention held a nice farewell event for us during which many encouraging words of appreciation were shared. All of this helped us bring closure to our 23-year sojourn in Cameroon.

While we may have left Cameroon, the ministries and projects we partnered with and led continue. There is no end in sight to the civil war, so the Trauma Healing workshops and Peace and Transformation seminars are as relevant and

needed as ever. In May, another three-day Trauma Healing workshop was held in a location to which tens of thousands of refugees fled during the early years of the conflict. The stories continue to be heart-wrenching, and the testimonies of trauma healing are heart-warming.



May Trauma Healing workshop.

The second Peace and Transformation seminar was held July 30. Many participants were from one of the most challenging areas of the war, where families and communities have been greatly divided – both physically and ideologically. Learning the concepts and skills of peace building and conflict transformation will enable these participants to be Christ-like peace advocates in their communities.

Please continue to support the Trauma Healing and Peace and Transformation ministries in Cameroon by giving to the [Cameroon Crisis Relief Fund](https://www.camerooncrisisrelief.org/).

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