

# FederwitzExpress

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## HANNAH & LEVI

Hannah and Levi loved spending time with their Gramma and Grampa. It took no time at all for the kids to warm up and they got right down to the business of playing!

Levi really loved smiling for his Grampa and Hannah enjoyed having two more people to read to her and to “cook” outside in the dirt.

Levi won't let anything get in his way. He crawls “army style” and will go right over or under anything that is where he wants to be. He can also pull himself up on the furniture. Levi has three teeth, he loves to play with his sister and eat.

Hannah is quite the talker and has yet to be at a loss for words. She loves to sing, dance, play and read. Amazingly we have found out that she likes to wash dishes and begs to do so. Hannah even helps to hang and fold the laundry, especially Levi's diapers.



## MEET THE PARENTS

Ali's parents came to Ghana for a few weeks in October. We truly enjoyed our time together. Most of our days were filled with spending quality time together but we stuck in a bunch of experiences that they will not soon forget.

There are many things that have become second nature to us but we know that they are not common practices in the US. For that reason we took them to see where we buy our groceries, fruits, vegetables,

and meats so that they can see how it is different for us here in Ghana. We were also able to visit David and Valerie's village for a few nights and attend their church as well.

At the end of their trip, we all drove down to Accra. It was a great way for them to see the country and the roads! We were also able to take a short vacation at the beach. It was a very enjoyable end to our time together.



## VOLTA REGION

After Ali's parents left, we traveled to Santrokofi located in the Volta Region. It is a beautiful area with mountains, trees and vegetation galore! We stayed at a guesthouse on the property of one of GILLBT's language project offices. This office is the home base to four different language projects. There are also five surrounding projects. The projects were notified that they should bring any computer repairs or concerns for Paul.

We arrived on a Wednesday evening just as the power went out. There had been heavy rain storms which caused some electrical problems. We were grateful that the rain brought cool weather with it so that we could sleep well despite not having fans! On Thursday morning, the power had not yet returned. Fortunately, there was a generator strong enough to run a couple of computers so that Paul could do the work he needed to do. It had a few hiccups, but we made it through the day.

Friday was not any different and we decided that since there was no electricity, we would travel to another language project that Paul had not yet visited. The whole family piled into the car along with Michael Serchi, the project manager in Santrokofi, and drove up, up, up the winding mountain road to the Avatime project. Upon our return to Santrokofi that afternoon...still no electricity! Paul and Michael started up the generator again but it did not want to cooperate. They made a run in to town to have some repairs and maintenance taken care of and got it back up and running. Thankfully, Paul was able to complete all of the tasks he needed to do despite not having electricity.

And how did Ali manage to feed the family for several days with no refrigeration? She had a few things in a cooler that were frozen intending them to go into the refrigerator upon our arrival. Since that was not possible, she cooked them up right away



and just rearranged our meal schedule. She had some spaghetti sauce that she reheated on the stove every 4-6 hours for two days so that it would continue to cook and not need to be refrigerated. We had oatmeal for breakfast and our lunches were simply PB & J sandwiches, neither of which requires refrigeration.

We headed back on the road to Tamale on Saturday and received a text message from Michael that the electricity came back on only 1 hour after our departure. Coincidence? We certainly don't think so, but Satan didn't stop the work from being done despite his multiple attempts. To God be the Glory!!!!

## HERE COMES THE WEB...

The very first assignment that Paul received at GILLBT when we arrived in 2007 was to write a proposal for gaining internet access. This has been a long road with many highs and lows. Every possibility was investigated and discussed and finally the proposal and funding were approved in July 2008 for a VSAT (satellite internet) system. Then it took until the middle of November for the license to be approved, equipment to arrive, and everything to be installed. Nothing happens quickly in Ghana.

Once the equipment was installed and working, it was necessary to make internet access available to the whole GILLBT office. This included configuring a firewall system to protect the users from the bad stuff on the internet. With internet access in each office comes the likely increase in viruses and malware. Paul needed to make sure that the IT department was ready to handle these issues.

After the office was connected the next step was to share this asset with others. This meant installing a high powered wireless access point (AP) on top of a 60 foot tower by the office. Then an AP was installed at the GILLBT guest house to provide service for clients. Only a few of the guest houses in Tamale have internet access, therefore we are hoping this will help to improve patronage. The most difficult connection was to the Dagbani literacy office located 2 miles away. A 60 foot tower had to be erected there also and the AP needed to be aimed directly at the one at the GILLBT office with no obstructions. This was no easy task and it took over a week to complete.

This internet connection is truly a blessing to everybody at GILLBT. We also have a wireless connection that goes to our house which allows Ali to be more connected with family and you, our partners. In the months to come other missionaries who live in the area will also be getting connections at home. Please do keep Paul in your prayers as although this helps him immensely in his work, it will also increase his workload in managing all of it.



*Barnabas (left) holds the wireless access point while Paul adjusts the pole.*

## EMAIL UPDATES

We have recently changed the way in which we are sending out our email updates. In order to make it more efficient for us, we have switched to using Google Groups. If you didn't receive an email from us with Christmas greetings then it is likely that there is a problem. Be sure to send us an email requesting to be put on our email update list so that you can get all of the details on our ministry.



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