



September, 2009

Bangui or Bust!

Dear Friends & Family,

Great news! I have received commitments for full support of my year in Bangui! I will be leaving October 6, 2009. Any more funds received for my ministry will enable me to purchase more equipment for the Bangui Evangelical School of Theology. Being unsure of what, if anything, is already over there, I'm sure extra funding for such purchases will be invaluable.

Some friends of my family from the days of living in Côte d'Ivoire know a missionary couple working at B.E.S.T. with SIL. They were back in the United States and Canada for the summer, and planned to return to Bangui in August. However, they decided to push their departure date back to October. I can tell that God has been working in this situation, because it turns out that I will be able to meet up with them in Paris, and will be on the same flight from Paris to Bangui with them! I am so grateful that I will be with someone for my first entry into a third world country on my own.



I have begun gathering supplies for my year in the Central African Republic. Thankfully I have the experience of my parents to draw on for things I would never think about bringing. There are so many items we buy every day in stores which you simply can not get in Africa. I am also trying to anticipate supplies I will need to complete my work. Luckily, there are short-term teams that often visit B.E.S.T., so if any equipment is needed from the United States, there is a reliable way to get it there.

Because of the costs and logistics of sending update letters in the mail to everyone, this will be the last mass mailing I will be sending out. I will be using e-mails to periodically keep you updated on how things are going, and what we as a team are accomplishing. To ensure that you receive these e-mails, please check on my website (<http://car.ejay563.com>) that your e-mail address is in my database. Simply go to the "Sign-up" page, and click on the "Click here" link of in the last line of the paragraph which says "To update your information [Click Here](#).", and follow the directions. If you have difficulty using this method, you may send your e-mail address to me, and I will update the information. I realize that not everyone has an e-mail address, so for these contacts, I will continue to send my letter through the mail.

In Him,

Erik Baldwin

"God does not call the equipped, He equips those He called."