



ACTS MINISTRY – Burkina Faso

“Providing love and hope for mother and child”

News from Burkina

Testimonies from the villagers and orphans at the ACTS Center

“I believe ACTS is following God’s plan as we can see results. In recent [evangelistic] campaigns 26 villagers have given their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ.” Pastor Gilbert Kaboré testified to ACTS Executive Director Joanna Ilboudo.

During the month of April evangelistic films were shown every Thursday evening at Temple Evangélique El Roï at the ACTS Center. Many villagers came to view the films and heard the Gospel message from Pastor Kaboré and the staff.



Pastor Gilbert Kaboré preaching at El Roï in March.

A man travelled 25 kilometers from the capital city of Ouagadougou to see one of the films. The film he saw dealt with a man who gave his son to demons in order to become rich. The Burkinabé man came to talk to Pastor Kaboré the next day and said the film revealed his very

own life. He wanted to be forgiven and change his way.

Pastor Kaboré explained the way of salvation and what it meant to renounce his old life. The man decided to give his life to Christ.

Samogo, a member of the construction team working on ACTS’ Ellel Medical Center, viewed the film one Thursday evening.

After the film Samogo told Pastor, **“I cannot go back home unless I give my life to the Lord.”** He did so that very night.



Construction of ACTS Medical Center is underway, but more funds are needed for completion (photo taken May 9)

Temple Evangélique El Roï was established as a place of worship during February and Pastor Kaboré is the pastor for the church and orphans as well as the chaplain for the Ellel Medical Center.

A few weeks ago a village woman known to be involved in witchcraft came to Rose who stays at the Center with the orphans. The woman said that the people in the occult have been trying to send curses to stop the work of ACTS, but they are not effective. The woman said she believed that the work of ACTS should continue because it is from God.

The number of orphans who come to the ACTS Center and ask to stay there are increasing. We do not have enough room to house more orphans at the present time. We are waiting for funds to build more dormitories...one for girls and one for boys.

More than 260 children are fed at the Center each day. An additional 532 children attending ACTS Speed Schools in other villages are fed one meal a day.

Inflation has hit the poor of Burkina Faso. Food, fuel, cement, other goods and services have become too expensive for many people. Famine is right around the corner as the planting season is still several months away.

The shortage of rice is making it more and more difficult to feed the orphans. Most days Joanna can still find rice at the market but the price is rising almost daily. Rice and other staples are being rationed. A sack of rice now costs the equivalent of US\$44, an increase of 80% over the last year.



Aliou, Séverin and Abdou, three of the youngest orphans eating lunch at the ACTS Center

Rice with vegetable sauce serves as a typical meal for the orphans. We would like to purchase extra rice before the price rises even more.

ACTS shows students they are loved. A student by the name of Tatiana explains, **“After my mother died I was left alone in our hut. It was difficult to find food and I used to cry day**

and night because nobody cared about me. Here at the ACTS Center I have food every day. I have a place to sleep and I have people who are like a new family.”

Safiatou testifies, **“When my Mom died my two brothers and I were left on our own. We did not know where to turn for support, but then we were brought to the ACTS Center by neighbors. We are really happy because we do not worry about food and they take care of us when we are sick. It is good to be here because we have people who are now our family members.”**



Safiatou, the day of her baptism at Temple El Roi

Shipping Container filled with donated goods

A 40 foot container is on its way by ship to ACTS Ministry in Burkina Faso. It is filled with items for building construction, hand tools for the gardens, sacks and cans of food, grain, clothing, books, toys, medical equipment and many more donated items.

ACTS is grateful to partners in Kansas for helping to load the container and for donations of many items that went into the container. Kansas farmers spent many hours sorting through donated items and packing the container. Other partners in West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Illinois donated food, furniture, medical equipment.

A businessman from Northwest Mutual Insurance Company in Illinois donated his own used Toyota Land Cruiser to ACTS. This will assist Joanna and the staff as they travel to remote village project sites where the roads are

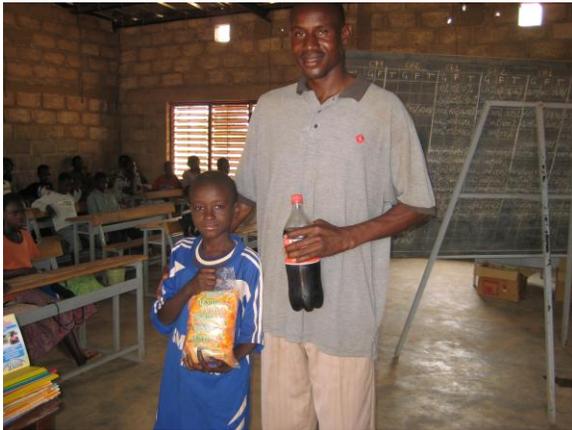
in the best of times rough and unimproved and during the rainy season nonexistent.

Another donated Land Cruiser provides transport over difficult terrain. The vehicle was used to transport an orphan named Joseph to the hospital in Ouagadougou. This orphan would have died if the vehicle had not been available.

Prayer Requests and Praise

- An item for praise. Each year tests are given to students in the country. A very few top students are given special scholarships for school. Soumaila, an orphan at the ACTS school, was chosen for the national scholarship competition because of his high marks at the final exams a few weeks ago.

We are very pleased that the ACTS school is able to send a student to compete at a national level with other schools in the country.



Winning student Soumaila with Laurent, his instructor at the ACTS School

- Thank the Lord for the growth of the church and for Pastor Kaboré. We praise Him for bringing salvation to men and women, boys and girls in the villages of Burkina Faso.
- Ask the Lord to continue to provide daily meals for the orphans and poor village children in the ACTS feeding program.
- Pray for the Lord to provide construction materials, medical equipment and a well for the Ellet Medical Center

- Please continue to pray for the children's health during the hot, dry season when meningitis and polio are prevalent.
- Thank the Lord for those who generously donated items and gave their time towards the filling of the shipping container with things for the poor.



The 40' shipping container full of donated goods from partners in five states is on its way to ACTS Ministry in Burkina Faso

- Ask the Lord to bless the staff of Heaven Sent Ministries in West Virginia and provide for their needs. They sent 11,000 meals for the orphans with the container.

You are strengthening the work of ACTS through your prayers and gifts. Together we are making a positive change in the lives of the poor and enlarging the Kingdom of God. Thank you for your partnership.

Yours very sincerely,

Sharyl J. Sieh
President USA

Joanna Ilboudo
Executive Director

ACTS Ministry is a not-for-profit ministry.
All gifts are tax deductible.
In Burkina Faso ACTS Ministry is a registered NGO (non-governmental agency).

May/June 2008