



NEWSLETTER

from Margaret & Celestin



April
2026

Dear Friends & Family,

Thank you for all your prayers and support. After travelling many miles we're safely back in Koundoul, Chad; tired from the journey and lack of sleep en route but ready to do God's will. It's very hot here now with temperatures up to 40 degrees Celsius during the day, and this will continue to rise until the rains start. It gets rather uncomfortable during the hottest period of the day and we have to slow down and drink a lot of water. The temperature remains quite hot at night, so we sleep outside hoping it will feel cooler.

We were in time to celebrate Easter together at church: 'La Bergerie Evangelique des Nations' - praise the Lord! Jesus conquered sin and death on the cross. He took our sin and died on the cross to save us. After 3 days in a tomb he rose from the dead! He is risen! He is alive and has promised to be with us always!!

♥ *"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."* ♥
John 3 v16, NRSV

Celestin really enjoys teaching and preaching the word of God and is a gifted communicator. He taught how to do evangelism and cross-cultural mission to the 6 students on the Discipleship Training School with Youth With A Mission in Yaounde, the capital of Cameroon. This was powerful. He was planning to stay longer in Cameroon, to attend the inauguration of pastors in the churches where he has done mission in the past. He returned to Chad early because he was invited to teach the youth from different churches on a celebration of the resurrection, at a church in N'Djamena. He preached the message of the cross, using the passage about passover as a base. This proved to be a powerful time too. Praise the Lord!

"You shall observe this rite as a perpetual ordinance for you and your children. When you come to the land that the LORD will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this observance. And when your children ask you, 'What do you mean by this observance?' you shall say, 'It is the passover sacrifice to the LORD, for he passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt, when he struck down the Egyptians but spared our houses.'" And the people bowed down and worshipped. The Israelites went and did just as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron."
(Exodus 12 v24-28, NRSV)

Margaret enjoyed the pleasure of meeting people in England, although it felt like being in a little whirlwind as time went by so quickly. It was good to grieve more for the loss of Mum, especially when visiting Saltash, Cornwall (where Mum chose to live after returning from France, where Dad died several years ago).

La Bergerie school is now on Easter holidays for a week. The primary school children had the opportunity to present their (English & French) language skills as well as dance, to their friends and parents on the last day of term. This had been postponed from the 21st February (international bilingualism day) due to the safety concerns at that time. End of term school bulletins were presented to the children who came top of their class. We held this event in the new school grounds (sorry the photo didn't come out well).



We are raising funds to build the toilets at La Bergerie Primary school and continue to use the 'GoFundMe' fundraising site:

'... excited to report that the next phase of development of La Bergerie primary school is starting - the toilets! It's a big challenge to complete this before the rainy season starts. We need to dig a hole 7 to 8 metres deep (depending on where the water table is) and 4x4 metres wide and build a reinforced 'cess pit' over the next couple of weeks. The weather is increasingly unpredictable and it could start raining as early as next month. Rain would seriously hamper the work because the hole will flood with water.

We really appreciated your generosity and support to build the boundary wall of the school and are hopeful that you will be able to help us again. We need to raise around £8,000 for this stage of the work. The funds will be used to pay the labourers to dig - it's very hard work - and line this hole with bricks and reinforced concrete pillars. (It's like building a house in the ground). We will also buy more materials and more tools for the building work with the funds raised. We need another miracle!

Please give as able. Thank you. (Through the GoFundMe website [<https://gofund.me/d96df2652>], or directly through our UK bank account – details below)

We are still teaching people in seminars at the end of each month at church with the aim of encouraging people to work and break out of their dependence mentality.

Celestin has been working with the 'organisation committee' and the choir as they prepare the next seminar to be held during the last week of April. The title is 'The Mystery of the Cross is my Victory'. We are organising this as a time of praise and worship after Easter; so each evening there will be a celebration of praise and worship. Our idea is to help Christians understand the mystery of the cross and their victory and at the same time do evangelism. The teaching will be based on Bible stories around the cross to help people engage. We will hold the seminar in the new school grounds. We hope and pray that Bible truths will be discovered and put into practice by participants.

As an activity of Youth With A Mission, we're planning a mission course for 3 – 4 weeks to be held in a church in N'Djamena in June. It will focus on evangelism and outreach - knowing God and making him known. Celestin has a heart to train 100 missionaries at this event!

Margaret is planning to travel to Sarh later this week to help the YWAM staff there at the beginning of the Discipleship Training School (DTS). There are around 5 candidates but we're unsure if they are actually ready to do the school. Other potential candidates are currently engaged in other activities. She will return to Koundoul after a couple of weeks to take up the invitation to teach 'How to study the Bible using the inductive method' on the DTS which has started at the new YWAM base in N'Djamena.

PRAYER POINTS:

- Praise God for his unconditional love and greatest gift of his only Son, sent to die for us!
- Thank God for his protection over our comings and goings and that he's always with us when we follow him.
- Pray for provision and construction of the toilets at La Bergerie Primary School. This is God's work and he is Sovereign.
- Please continue to pray for the new church in Milligana.
- Pray for the Discipleship Training School and new base in N'Djamena.
- Pray for the Sarh base. Pray for the staff and students who will be involved in the Discipleship Training School in Sarh.
- Please continue to pray for our safety and the security situation in Chad.
- Please pray that God will increase our regular financial support, so that we can be more effective in our work.

THANK YOU!

N.B. 'La Bergerie means 'sheepfold' in English, a place where people can come to safety, learn, be healed, and go out to tell others the gospel and bring them in (to the sheepfold).

GOD BLESS YOU!

Margaret & Celestin

To support us financially:

If you pay income tax in the UK and would like to gift aid, please sign up to www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20103447. Stewardship claim back from the government the tax paid and add it to your gift.

You are welcome to give directly through our UK bank:

Bank name: Santander; Account name: Margaret M TANNER;
Sort Code: 09-01-32; Account no.: 85726803.

If you would like to contribute to building La Bergerie primary school wall & toilets, please give through our bank or GoFundMe: <https://gofund.me/d96df2652>.



Site of toilet 'cess pit'

Thank you