

Dear IHM community,

August 22, 2013

Hello again from Kumbo, Cameroon! We are coming upon the two month mark since arriving here, and in some ways so much has happened, while in others we are just getting started.

Our language lessons are progressing, and we are starting to not only hear but understand some of what is spoken on the streets and in the market. We have even had some simple conversations entirely in Lamnso', a small triumph!

While it is still the Summer Holiday and the students are away, things are starting to pick up around here. Teachers are arriving from out of town, families are coming to register their children, the workers are preparing the buildings and grounds. The campus which was dormant when we arrived is now awake and buzzing with activity. We are meeting many people and are learning more about the nature of poverty in Cameroon, which looks very different from poverty in the US. We have become more and more grateful for the gift of our educations!

Some things we experience here are very different from what we are used to. For instance, the academic year for St. Augustine's College begins on Monday Sept. 2, and as yet I have not seen a syllabus or textbook. The first staff meeting will only be the Thursday before the terms starts, and I am to speak with my department head at that time about the classes I will teach. While I am no stranger to art of procrastination, this is cutting it pretty close, even for me! Additionally, while I was originally told I would be teaching physics, now I am told I will be teaching mathematics. We will see where things stand once the school year stars. This is just part and parcel of the relaxed way of life here.

I recently spoke to the youth of a neighboring parish, and looking out among the faces I briefly saw the faces of the IHM young people. Please know that we are thinking fondly of you and praying for you! We are especially praying for all the transitions you are going through, as the students and teachers begin the school year, as the Religious Ed classes gear up, and for all the many other transitions in the community.

Thank you all for your continued prayer and support.

In Christ,

Eric and Logan Horne,

with Helena, James, Max, Isabelle, and Sally.