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Dear Prayer Partners,

Have you ever experienced culture shock? It can be quite the experience to leave everything you are familiar with and enter another culture where the local customs, beliefs, and social expectations are vastly different from your own culture. All day long you hear people speaking in different languages that you do not understand. You are in an unfamiliar climate with different vegetation. The daily sights, smells, and sounds have become unfamiliar. You stand out from the local population due to the way you dress, inability to communicate, and unfamiliarity with social and local customs and laws. Needless to say, this can be quite stressful when first experienced, but one can adapt to these differences over a period of time. The good news comes when a local tells you that you fit into his culture as if you had been born there and had simply lived a few years in the United States. You have finally overcome a major hurdle in adapting to a new culture!

December was a challenging month for me as I tried to readjust to being on deputation after spending two-and-a-half weeks in Cameroon. It was quite a rhythm switch from two months of travel and meetings to being in a different culture and teaching a class. Thankfully, I was able to get back on track over the course of December. God blessed with two encouraging meetings in January. These took me to both Kansas and Tennessee. It was certainly warmer in both those states than in Iowa!

The beginning of December found me helping my home church with their first weekend of Christmas outreach. It has developed quite a bit over the past couple of years to include both an indoor program and an outdoor village. After that, I spent quite a bit of time with my family in Iowa. I really enjoyed spending time with my dad and brothers hunting deer. We managed to fill five out of our six deer tags. I am thankful for two more churches who have taken me on for support in December and January bringing my support up to 33%.

Good progress has been made on the Madi translation. The back translation check of Luke was completed in December. We have almost finished checking Philippians as well. I am waiting to receive 1 Corinthians from the team, which is the next book to be checked. The Lhukonzo team is translating the final chapters of John. There is a possibility that I will be taking a trip to Uganda this summer to catch up with both teams. I may also be accompanied by someone interested in Bible translation. Please pray for wisdom whether I should go and for the details of the trip to be worked out.

Serving the Lord, Anders Swanson





Praises:

Safety on winter roads New support Meetings are being scheduled Progress on translations

Prayer Requests:

Wisdom for Uganda trip Lhukonzo team translating end of John Wisdom checking 1 Corinthians





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