

# Michaela's Mission

Serving the Lord Through Childcare

July 2022

## Saying Goodbye to Cameroon

In my last prayer letter, I mentioned that I would be leaving Cameroon. The months and weeks since then have been full of preparation and transition. Before I left, the older three kids wrapped up their school year. They were so happy to start summer break.

One of the more challenging things I had to do before leaving was to pack up my life into two 50 pound pieces of luggage. I would put some things in the trunk and then weigh it. Sometimes I would take something out or put something in and weigh it again. In the end I got all the important things in and everything was just underweight.

A couple of days before I left Ngaoundere, the Kuhns had a farewell party around a bonfire for me. The kids presented me with things that they made for me. Some were handmade crafts, others were cards, and one was a letter. Each thing reflected the unique personality of each kid. It was the sweetest farewell I could have had.



*At the bonfire, the kids looked over my shoulders as I read their creations. I cried tears of joy remembering how much I enjoyed being with each of them and tears of sadness thinking about how much I would miss them.*



*I managed to get my luggage to weigh 49.8 pounds and 49.5 pounds. It was not easy.*



## Traveling Adventures

I left Ngaoundere for Yaounde a couple of days before I was scheduled to leave the country so that I would have a bit of a buffer in case something happened. This turned out to be a good thing because my original flight got canceled because of strikes within the airline. However, LBT was able to get my flight rescheduled for the day before my original flight.

I was able to leave Cameroon without any farther trouble. I got as far as Chicago with no excitement. My flight out of Chicago was delayed, but it was not for long and I was able to make it to my grandma's house in North Carolina the same night. I do not sleep when I travel and so I was very thankful for a comfortable bed to crash on that night.



*Saying goodbye is really hard, especially since I love these kids so much. I feel so blessed to have been their nanny for the past year.*

## Since I've Been Back

As soon I arrived in the States, I attended a family reunion in North Carolina. It was wonderful to see aunts, uncles, and cousins again. It was also a good opportunity to get over jet lag before I had to start working on the many things I have to get done this summer.

After the family reunion, my parents, sibling, and I made the drive home to Concordia, MO. When I got home, I started working on learning how to drive, finding a job, and other things related to preparing for college this fall. I will be studying early education at State Fair Community College beginning in August. This past year with the Kuhns has solidified in my mind that I want to work with young kids as a career. I found it so rewarding to be a part of such an important time in kids' lives.

This summer I also went to the Concordia Mission Institute\*, but instead of attending lectures and session like I normally would, I got to work with the kids in the youth program. I enjoyed being around all the missionary kids and hearing all about their different "homes".

*\*Concordia Mission Institute gathers missionaries from LBT and Mission of Christ Network together once a year for lectures and sessions.*



*It was so great to see my parents and siblings again. I had missed them so much.*



*Pictures the day after I arrived and the day left. The kids have grown before my very eyes!*

## Who to Support Now

Thank you for supporting me this past year. It has meant so much to me! If you wish to support another missionary, I encourage you to support Tiffany Smith through financial gifts and through lots of prayer. Tiffany will be serving in Tanzania as a Community Engagement Specialist. You can find out more about her at [LBT.org/Tiffany-Smith](http://LBT.org/Tiffany-Smith).

## Prayer

Thanks:

- That I have safely arrived in the States.
- For all of you who have supported and prayed for me.
- I was able to spend time with my family shortly after arriving.

Needs:

- That I would be able to transition well and smoothly.
- That I would complete everything necessary for college this fall.

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