



EMERALD'S JEWELS NIAMEY, NIGER



WE PRESS TOWARD THE GOAL

Yolanda Zimmerman

JUNE 2020

JOSEPH'S PLACE

Children

The children have returned to Joseph's Place for 6 weeks of school, which started on June 1st. The government has opened the schools to make up for the 2-month school closing due to coronavirus. We were happy to see everyone return and quickly get back into the routine of school.



Our Sunday best!

We also have started to attend Eagles Chapel church now that the government has lifted the ban on public assemblies.



Education

Our children are getting a review of the French and Math coursework in the Vie Abondante school. The 6th graders are attending Saturday class to help prepare them for the 6th grade exams needed to graduate from 6th grade to middle school.



The Vie Abondante Primary School Director, Habibou Cisse, is preparing to open a 7th grade class this October. Although the school was originally chartered to permit a secondary school, changes in government requirements make it necessary to apply for a secondary school opening permit along with paying a hefty fee. Neal and Danette Childs of Vie Abondante have agreed to support expanding the current school to include a middle school. It is in line with their goal to teach the next generation of Christians.

Staff

House father Pastor Omar has been a true pastor to us during the pandemic. We are grateful for his leadership and prayer life.

Our prayers were answered! The borders were opened, and the welder was able to get the parts he needed to complete the assembly of the plows. Pastor Omar and Pastor Kader were able to travel and successfully distribute the plows, millet and rice to the farmers. The farmers have already started to receive rain and now they are equipped with donkeys and plows and have extra food to sustain them during the planting and growing season. Thanks be to God!





Health

We are in good health overall. All the children and staff have facemasks that we wear in church and that we take to school. The latest coronavirus infection count is less than a thousand cases and 65 deaths total in Niger. I have seen few people wearing face masks and social behavior appears to be the same as before. Doctors without Borders has set up a facility in Niamey to treat those with coronavirus. We are praying for the people of Niger and for the refugees who have fled to the country who may be carrying the disease. Time will tell how this will affect Niger, but we remain prayerful.

The doctor at Clinique Olivia has suggested that the children receive Yellow Fever vaccinations. Yellow Fever vaccination is a requirement for anyone entering Niger.



Housing

It is with wonderment when I consider that within a few short years, I will have a house full of teenagers. Even if we do not grow in numbers, we will grow in stature and need more space. I would like to include more children next fall, but that will require additional space and additional house parents. So, we are looking for a larger facility now and praying that God will send more people who have pastors' hearts and a love for children. We desire adults who, under the leadership of Pastor Omar and Mama Aissa, will assist in teaching and exhibiting Godly character. **We remain grateful to everyone who has shared their resources (time, talent and treasure) with these children and their families. Praise God!**

VIE ABONDANTE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Themes

The themes for this year are "Pressing toward the goal" from Philippians 3:14, and "God has a plan for your life" from Jerimiah 29:11.

Activities

Building construction is still underway and we hope the additional classrooms will be completed before school reopens in the fall (October). Emerald's Jewels donated funds for cleaning supplies for the re-opening of the school.

Our Joseph's Place children are back and finally got to try on their new Easter outfits.

Beautiful!



If you would like to participate in this ministry, we welcome your prayers, and your donations to ejewels.org.