

## ELI weekend

Posted: 01 Aug 2012 07:14 AM PDT

Last Thursday afternoon I went out to Empowering Lives again -this time for the weekend.

The afternoon and evening was spent talking to different people at ELI and getting to know them. A team of 9 was there from California.



a crazy kid

Helped make bread Friday morning. Learned how to bake in an oil drum oven! An intern from NY is at ELI for the summer and he used to work at a bakery so he has been getting the oven set up and teaching the cooks how to bake. The bakery has a roof but is otherwise outdoors. It was like baking at the Feast of the Hunter's Moon historical reenactment. I loved it. We also made a couple cakes for the monthly birthday celebration at the children's home.



oven is on left side of the picture



In the afternoon I learned how to graft passion fruit seedlings, milked cows, and learned how to make mendazzi (sort of like doughnuts). After dinner with the "family" that adopted me (the children's home is set up into families with parents), I helped tutor the Class 6's in math. They must have learned something because they wanted me to teach them again on Saturday!

Mama and Baba Brian who adopted me

Saturday morning I made a gravel path because the dirt path got very muddy. One of the boys assisted me and he was a big help. After lunch I iced the birthday cakes. 3 cakes made enough to give each kid (over 70) a little piece. There was not enough powdered sugar for the icing so I added flour and it turned out great. All of the kids gathered in the evening for the monthly birthday celebration and dinner.

Sunday, after church, I took polaroid pictures of the families. In the afternoon there was a football match between the borders at the school and the kids of the children's home. Some of the girls braided my hair while we watched.



The evening consisted of two dinners (one with the kids and one with the team at the training center) and then a movie with the kids. Then a delightful conversation about international development with like minded people.

Monday morning I helped bake bread again, including delicious cinnamon rolls. I was able to get a ride back to town after lunch.

Tuesday morning Aaron and I went to the deaf school but found out that the term had ended but we had not been informed. I then went to the post office and picked up a package from a friend! As I had a bit of time I stopped by the library in town. It's pretty small but they had quite a few agriculture development books. Then on to my dentist appointment. Got a filling. Took a nap. Slurped down some ramen noodles.

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