

The Messer Message

November 2006

Dear Loved Ones,

How do I know it is time to write another prayer letter? I am getting them from all of our missionary friends. ☺ How's that for keeping ourselves in line? So, if we don't write as often as we should, blame it on all the other missionaries who don't write us and thus remind us that it is time to write. :) OK, guess that excuse does not really hold water, but I tried.

Hey, guess what. We received a gift of \$1,000 toward the church roof!! Praise the Lord. We are very thankful for this help. I am personally praying (and I know Andy is as well), and we are praying together, for this church to be built. We only have \$4,000 more to go and the roof can be finished. We are very happy with the quick answer to our prayers, and we are trusting the Lord for the rest. He is a great and mighty God and NOTHING is too difficult for Him. Our own lack of faith is what usually holds back the blessings. We know that we are not asking for this in a selfish manner because it is not for us, AND God did send us here, so we are trusting Him to provide (in His time) for the needs of this church. There are all sorts of lessons that we learn when we are in these kinds of situations. We learn patience as we wait on the Lord. Things will happen in HIS timing, not ours. He knows our needs better than we do. Sometimes what we think we need, is not what we really need. Be wise and plan well. The list can go on and on. We just want to learn our lessons well and get the church built. :)

The family is doing fine. The kids are beginning to officially "hate" (they said it, not me) school. They said, "First we liked it," (That was at the beginning when it was all review and easy.) "Then we did not like it, and now we hate it." I'm really praying, and trying to be kind and sweet while I teach them--if you have ever home schooled, you may know what is going on here in our home. :) It's a mini cold war with occasional out right battles, and brief moments of peaceful calm. If I ever decide to knock out a subject for the day then all are happy and rejoicing. If I make them do all the subjects, it's a bit of a struggle. I want to balance between being nice, and giving them a real education. So far, they are up to where they should be (I know this because all of their papers have turkeys and pilgrims on them) so we are OK. Anyone want to come and help teach my kids? They usually do wonderfully better for anyone but MOM. They love it when Dad steps in to help which he does as often as he can.

Our church is doing well. The members continue to come (some more faithfully than others). Hey, if you are a member of a church--GO TO CHURCH FAITHFULLY! You have no idea how much it encourages a Pastor to have his members come faithfully. It saddens us when we notice people missing. Especially when they manage to come by for this or that during the week, but can't show up for church on Sunday. Ok, off the soap box--but really--go to church.

There really is no other news here. No more dead rats or exciting events to report. I'll close with a few prayer requests, and a big huge thank you to all you dear folks who pray for us. We count on you!

Prayer Requests

1. Sand needed for construction (There has been a ban on sand companies getting sand from the beach. The Kru men, or villagers, who control the beach area say they are losing their heritage and they want more money for it. The sand companies don't want to pay more money, so there has been no sand available for the past 3 weeks. Without sand, there is no masonry work, and the construction projects grind to a halt.)

2. Roof money still needed (\$4,000) for church construction project.
3. Several counseling situations we are dealing with out here (some engaged, some married and some who would like to get married). Pray for us to have wisdom, and for them to be obedient to God's Word.
4. Home School (Leah-3rd grade, David-2nd grade, Nadia-1st grade, Lexie-Preschool)
5. People with whom we have been witnessing. That they would come to Christ. Some are Muslim, and they are very hard to reach.
6. We have an opportunity to sell our car and buy a better one. The better one is the same kind, but in much better shape. While this does increase the financial strain out here, we feel that it is a wise move to make. Our car currently has trouble with the clutch, brakes, A/C does not work and many other lesser problems. We are trying to get it into selling condition as quickly as possible. Please pray that things will go smoothly and we'll have enough money to buy the better car (and pray that it will indeed be a better car for us.)
7. Bible School -- many students need your prayers. Classes begin this Saturday (Nov. 11) Pray for Andy as he must prepare and teach each week. There are others teaching as well during the week. Pray that the students will be faithful and will learn much.

Much love in Christ,

Andy and Becky Messer

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