

Back in the Bush Mission Letter #3.... 2009

Greetings from the bush,

We are all fine and up to our ears in work.

Thursday evening Carl and Barb Dierksheide, Sandy Nelson, and Joe Kanagy ended their long journey from the US joining our Curran group back here in the bush.

Carl and Joe have jumped into their work and we are moving ahead.

Our construction team was given 2 homes to renovate for Curran Hospital. With the hospital increasing in activity there is a great need for additional housing for visiting nurses and doctors. One house was so bad when we first drove up to it you could hardly see that it was a house because the jungle oh so quickly reclaims its territory. We nick named this house the weed house. There is a 3rd house Curran would like us to rebuild but that may be a bit more than we can handle.

We are also building roof trusses and installing a roof on St John's Lutheran Church in Zorzor. We have designed a very unique vaulted ceiling truss. With Joe's help St John's project has really kick into high gear this week.

Carl is working on designing an improved water supply system for Curran Hospital. Can you imagine a hospital without running water?

Deb was asked to do the sermon at St John's on Jan 11th and did a fine job of conveying her message of the many ways God reveals Himself to us. She told a great story how God was made real to an unbeliever. Liberians historically are great story tellers as that is how information was passed on in a society when few knew book (could read or write). So Deb's story had them on the edge of their seats. As she usually says when things click, "God blessed".

Deb is very pleased with the progress of the teacher training classes. To try to accommodate the varying schedules of teachers from 3 different schools in Zorzor, there will be as many as 3 classes a day. Barb, Sandy, and Deb will share those duties. After being led to believe the number would be much higher and after suggesting smaller class sizes so more one-on-one training could take place, Deb was relieved when only about 25 students started the first day. The teachers in training seem to enjoy their classes.

A lady in her mid twenties came to our house one evening and asked if we would help her pay for an operation at Curran hospital. She showed Deb a baseball sized hernia protruding from her lower abdomen and had no money to have it corrected. I have learned if you are led to help somebody like this you always take the money to the hospital and pay the money directly to the patient's account. If you don't the money may be used for something else. The operation was done a few days ago and somebody told me she was up walking the halls in the hospital with a big smile on her face. Praise God!!

Pray that God would keep us and all our workers safe and in good health.

Please continue to pray for our productivity in things of this world and eternal.

In His service
gary and deb