

March 3, 2010

Back in the Bush Mission Letter #72010

Greetings to all,

I am writing this from my desk back home in Pa. Deb and I arrived home safely late Monday evening. Praise God! But, what is all this white stuff laying in my yard? You know you've been away too long when while getting ready to take a bath, I paused in amazement to see hot water spraying from the shower head! Gosh! What a novel idea!!

This year's trip was a good one. Thank God! From the setting up of the Day Memorial Church job then on to the renovation of Curran Lutheran Church and parsonage, it has been non stop. Deb helped set up the teacher training workshops at Day then on to Sanoyea to conduct her own classes for the teachers at Kirsten Marie Jenson Lutheran School. We were blessed with productive but long days.

Deb and I spent a week at Phebe Hospital helping gather the student information for the 2010/2011 TSP school year. It is a stressful time having so many people come to you and plead for help to pay their children's school fees. The TSP keeps getting bigger and more and more people hear of its success and want to be part of the program. In this environment of poverty and great need I can't blame them in the least but we can only do so much. If we take too many people at a time into this life boat the boat will sink; then nobody has anything. We usually add about 200 new students to the TSP every year and right now we have almost a 2 year waiting list to get on the program. It is very difficult to tell a mother on the verge of tears that right now we can't take any more names and she needs to come next year to see if we have room for her children on the wait list. No easy job! But for the lucky 1500 plus students this year, they can thank God for the help that will come.

Now being back home, Deb and I are going through a mountain of mail, e-mail and paper mail, Oh, and then there is that tax stuff. We will get it done though.

We want to thank everyone for the prayers that were offered up for us while we were in Liberia. We were truly blessed! Sunday evening Deb and I walked across the tarmac and into a plane that took us out of poverty, back to our lovely home full of gadgets, but our friends are.... still there.... Let us not stop praying. Praying for good health care for those who seldom ever have a chance to see a doctor, nutritious food and clean water for those who sadly have so little, and a chance to go to school for those who crave to sit behind a desk..... In Jesus' name.....amen

Your friends in Christ
gary & deb