

Feb/March 2008

Dear Praying Friends,

“Go to now, ye that say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little and then vanisheth away.” James 4:13-14

I was again reminded of this verse and the brevity of life as the events of this month unfolded. It is a reminder that we must be busy about the work of telling others the good news of Christ, making use of each opportunity. Tuesday, March 3rd started like most days, the secondary school in town was planning another sports day, and students were getting ready for the events of the day. One of the students, Andy, helping on a building project at the school volunteered to go get nails as they had no more on site. Borrowing a bike, which had no brakes, he went to get the nails. On the return trip, coming down a hill, Andy was heading for an intersection where a sand truck loaded with sand was entering. Having no brakes, and little time to respond, he slammed into the rear fender of the of the truck, dying instantly. I'm sure Andy had no idea that it would be his last day on this earth. He no doubt was thinking about getting back to the school with those nails, and maybe he had plans later to enjoy the sports activities and have some fun with his friends before heading home, but the day did not go as planned. He was ushered out into eternity. So often we think there is lots of time left to do God's will, or to receive the Lord Jesus as Savior, but the Scriptures tell us we only can be assured of right now. It is interesting to note one example of the Lord's goodness in Andy's life. He was a friend of several of the young people in our church, and just the week before had come with Beans to the Wednesday evening service. Little did we know that it would be his only visit at Open Door. I do not know if he knew Christ, but I do know that he heard the gospel that night. As I attended the funeral the following week, there were many young people there, classmates, to pay their last respects to their friend. The tragedy is not so much that he died so young, but that he probably died without Christ. We were reminded that death is no respecter of persons, and can strike any where, at any time, and any age.

During the funeral for Andy, I noticed that Tyrron Polson and his sisters, Dyone and Antonnia, got up and hurriedly left. As soon as the funeral was over I learned that they had rushed up to the hospital to be with their mom before she died. All of a sudden death touched us since we have become close to the Polson family through Tyrron. While Tante, (Mrs. Polson) had been sick for awhile, we all thought, hoped, and prayed, that she was going to regain her strength and health. She was such a good, kind, and loving person. Her family was very important to her! It is always difficult to loose a family member, or anyone you have come to know and love. It is even harder when you are not sure of their spiritual condition. Karen had talked to Tante about her salvation, which she affirmed. Tante read her Bible and had her favorite portions. We can only hope that she truly understood what the Bible says, and had placed her faith in Christ. I know that we had asked prayer for her since she fell ill, and we want to say thank you for your prayers. Please continue to remember the Polson family now in their sorrow. Pray especially that they would be saved.



This past January, a team headed up by Wayne Camfield came and worked on the basement of the mission's house. We thank the Lord for His blessing and for each team member who worked so hard whether it was wiring, cutting in conduit, plastering walls, painting, cooking, or doing laundry!. You can check the Harbour Light Web site to see all that was accomplished. Other than the kitchen and bathroom cabinets, the basement of the missions house is complete.

There was even time for the team to help staff member, Richard Little, start the decking forms on his house.

Speaking of the Little's, we praise the Lord for His abundant blessings to them with gifts for materials and with helpers to work on their house. A couple of Saturdays ago, Richard had a work day to cast the floor. I picked up several young men from our church to help, and when we arrived at the work site, it seemed like half of the village of Mount Pleasant was already there! The men worked hard from 8am to 5pm with only breaks for short rests and eating. This enabled the floor to be completely cast in one day. Karen joined the ladies at the work site who



were cooking food in big pots over campfires. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner was served to all who came. Richard had killed a goat and a pig for the occasion. Stewed pork or goat was served along with stewed peas, rolled rice and cocoo. Everyone enjoyed the food. Richard will soon be putting up the walls and already has block on site. It is the Little's prayer that they will be able to finish enough of the house to move in by end of this year, please

God. If anyone is interested in getting together a team of men to help with the roof of his house let us know, and we'll keep you posted as to the progress.



We are looking ahead to a work team that is planning to come in July to work on the back retainer wall at the station. I am working now on getting the block ordered so we will have it on hand before team time. This project has been in the works for a long time and will be wonderful to see it come to completion. "The desire accomplished is sweet to the soul." Prov.13;19a

Maintenance on the station equipment can be a challenge, requiring patience, innovation, and persistence, often requiring ordering parts and waiting. I'm still working on a repair and upgrade on the Winco generator. Lord willing, we will have that finished soon. As they say, "the parts are in the mail." It is not just rust that challenges us in maintenance, but animals as well can cause problems. The other day some of the cows that roam freely through the place,



decided that a guy wire on one of our ground radial posts would be just the thing to rub against. The result, one ground radial post on the ground. The post which has been there for some 12 years snapped at the base. We temporarily put the post back up and ordered a new post. Since we couldn't get the length of post we needed, we got what was available and improvised. The new post has a rebar foot and an aluminum extension at the top to keep the height we needed.

Pray that the Lord would give us wisdom and insight as we look at possible of alternative power sources. With the cost of diesel continuing to go up, it makes good sense to check out other possible ways to produce our power. They make wind generator systems that will more than handle our needs, the question is cost and feasibility. We desire to be good stewards of the money the Lord provides, and it might be as cost effective to make payments on a wind system as it is to purchase diesel every few weeks. I will be checking to see what is available and what could be done, cost saving possibilities, purchase price, installation cost, maintenance cost etc.

Easter is this Sunday, and we hope that you will have a blessed Easter Service. Karen has been working on getting the fellowship meal organized. We have 127 chicken wings, cleaned, seasoned and stored in our freezer just waiting for Easter morning when I will be frying them before church. There are about 50 folks who regularly attend Open Door, but we are planning for 75. It is always a very busy day, but a good time of fellowship.

It looks as if the Young Men's Bible Study fellows will be camping out on White Island this next week with Pastor. It is primitive camping, but loads of fun. Bringing in the catch for the day, whether welks, lambi, lobster, or fish adds to the enjoyment. Please pray for the young people at our church. That those that are saved would put Christ first in their lives, and those who don't know Christ would take to heart that the future is not certain, especially in light of the recent events, and receive Him.

I thought I might share a humorous incident that happened on what is called Good Friday. Since it is a Holiday here, I decided not to go to the station first thing and to catch up on a few things at home. As I stepped out on the front porch of our house I heard a cow moo, which is not unusual, but the quality of the moo caught my attention. It sounded like the moo was coming from a hollow place like a cave or something. In my mind I thought the only place like that is, **in the well** that is by our house! I thought surely not, but it was true. When I went and looked, there was a yearling calf standing at the bottom of the 25 foot deep well, water up to her belly, mooing and shivering! I have heard of having to get an ox out of a ditch, but a well? Well, ;) I went looking for the herdsman and let them know of the poor calf's distress and in a little while they showed up, got a rope, and pulled her to safety. The calf seemed to be fine, only got a little more than the drink she was looking for that morning.

Serving the Lord with gladness,
John and Karen McPherson