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Praise/Prayer Requests

Praise the Lord, the 1
pediatric ward is
now opened, with
running water!

Praise the Lord, for 2
the village of
Kabomo and the
new church started
there and the 54
people who gave
their lives to Jesus.

Praise the Lord! The 3
new website is up
and running and you
can follow us at
www.waemm.com

The Sierra Leone 4
Wesleyan Church
and the Gbendembu
bible college and
their 22 new stu-
dents

For Mimi and Chris, 5
and Matt who are
left behind in the US.

Marc as he serves 6
the army in Kuwait..

- To become a financial or prayer partner in our ministry [Click Here](#)
- Asher family fund WM04-0332
- We thank all the people willing to continue to pray for us .
- Read about Kamakwie at

www.waemm.com

Ashers In Africa

Volume 2 Issue 2

December 2010

How does ground nut soup and rice sound for Christmas dinner?

I can hardly believe Christmas is just a few days away. I have wanted to stop and send this out to all of you, but we have been so busy. In November we celebrated the 51st year of Kamakwie Wesleyan Hospital in it's current structure. This was such a busy time. Starting the week before, we had our first team since Tom and I were at the hospital. They came from Central, SC with Rev. Wiggins and Rev. Milstead leading the group, but the Leach family, Budd, Judy and Rev. Todd, joined in.. They were wonderful, doing two medical clinics, one in a village that I will tell you about later and the other at the hospital. They painted the new team house and began the process to make bunk beds for it. They were able to complete three bunks before they left. In addition, they helped with hospital rounds, sewed curtains and scanned eyeglasses for our new optometry program. They were certainly a blessing! Then before the celebration, the Princess's, Dr. Gus and his son Jon came. They were followed by Dr. and Mrs. Emmett and finally by Dr. Tom Putnam. To say that the dining room was a bit full was an understatement! But we all had a great time. Many of the group like the Leaches, Princess's, Emmett's, Putnam, Wiggins and Janene (Jennings) Bryson were all in Kamakwie at one time in their lives. It was so neat to hear how things had been and compare to how they are. But no matter what the

story was, it was clear that God had blessed the work here. The group put together the pictures I had (thanks to Zikes and Jennings) and some they brought and made a lovely bulletin board. The employees of the hospital love it so that I think it has become a permanent part of the chapel.

Now realize that all this is going on while the hospital continues to run. We had a march pass (like a parade) with over 1500 children and adults marching. We had a lovely ceremony with dignitaries and many people we love speaking on behalf of the hospital. The staff even did a skit depicting the situation we find ourselves in while a nation talks of free health care for pregnant, and lactating women and children under 5 but excludes the faith based hospitals and we are the ONLY hospital for 3 hours. I think the government officials got the message!

Following the celebration, we dedicated the new Rogers Family Pediatric Ward. This is the first phase of our OB expansion project. It holds thirty pediatric beds (well it will when we get enough) and has running water and flush toilets. I was given the honor of handing it over to JY Konteh and the Wesleyan Church of Sierra Leone. I think it will serve the hospital very well.

The staff did so much to make this a wonderful event.



Everyone cleaned and polished. Pastor Jarr sewed her heart out and made new curtains for the entire hospital! Samuel worked tirelessly to find places to house all the guests. The brown men cleaned and cleaned as some came and others left. The women from the hospital cooked and cooked. They made meals for over 1500 people in the afternoon and then again for over 300 in the evening! And ladies, they did it over an open fire with heavy cast iron pots! They even had to kill the cow and the chickens to cook them! Everyone worked extra hard and tried to cover the shifts the best they could. It was a team effort!

And we can't forget the Mahr family. Dr. Lynda and Dr. Peter and their boys Phillip and Jordan who continued to provide excellent care for the patients while all this was going on.

Well now what? After all it was the celebration of "50 years and moving forward". Well I will tell you some of the things that are happening in Kamakwie.

I. The schools - Mr. Kamara is busy teaching extra

classes in English literature. Why you say? Because the government changed the required reading list this year and the books are not available. Well maybe not in the rest of the country! We were able to bring back copies, cliff notes, and the movie version of all titles! This past week we showed Shakespeare's "The Tempest" He did a great job explaining the play to the students.

2. Schools - Lightning hit the transformer on the school for the well pump. We have found the parts in Freetown and hope to have it fixed next week. We had to wait a bit as the electrician had a wedding to attend, his own!

3. Electrical system - Even though it was a busy time, Tom Garber from ITEC (website [click here](#)) came and did his initial survey. As you know, electricity is one of our most difficult problems. We can not go forward without solving this problem. We are so limited by have electricity only a few hours a day and only when fuel is available. You can see what they are doing on their website. They have another team coming early this year to help evaluate the system and generate a plan for the future. Please pray with us about this. We know it will be a huge capital expense, but the hospital can not go forward without it.

4. OB expansion - We have begun digging the septic and tiling the old pediatric ward. We hope to have this unit completed by February. Then we will move the existing OB ward over to this space and start on the old OB ward. We have reviewed the statistics and as we suspected the number of deliveries is increasing each year. In 2010 over 300 babies have been delivered at Kamakwie Wesleyan Hospital. This is 50 more than 2009.

5. Schools - since the shipment has been delivered a large number of reading textbooks have been delivered to the Kamakwie Primary school and the Kabomo primary school. Reading is the basis for better understanding of English and subsequently better understanding of all subjects. We hope to have teams come who will read with the students to help them.

6. Operating Room - We now have the operating microscope and some other instruments to begin the 2nd OR. We are still working on the general anesthesia. We found a machine in England that sounds like it is all we need, but it has a price tag of \$16,000. We will continue to Pray about this.



Heath Screening at 50th Celebration



Dedicating the new Rogers Family Pediatric Ware



Dr. Lynda and Dr. Peter



Village clinic ran until dark!



Books for Kabomo



Screening and labeling glasses

So how is Matthew doing? He is doing well in school in Ohio. And we really miss him! Marc is now in Kuwait serving in the army. We continue to pray for his safety. Mimi and Chris are still in Wisconsin, where Mimi enjoys teaching.

Every day we pray for you, our prayer and financial supporters. We are very aware that none of this would be possible without you and we are so very thankful. God bless you! We were so excited to speak with you this summer about the projects that are underway, that we didn't mention our own support. Due to the course Tom took this summer, extensive speaking schedule and the economy that has forced some of our supporters to drop out, our fund is lower than we expected. If the Lord lays it on your heart please send your end of the year gift to Global partners at PO Box 50434 Indianapolis, IN 46250 or click on the link on the first page of this newsletter for giving. Merry Christmas to your all and may the Lord give you a Happy New year. Drs. Tom and Karen Asher

We finally have our website up and running! I just can't tell you all about the work in one letter every quarter. So go to the web site and learn a more about what God is doing in Kamakwie . [Click here](#)