

DRS. TOM AND  
KAREN ASHER  
2713 RAUCH RD.  
TEMPERANCE, MI  
48182  
734-856-9155  
[ashersinafrica@yahoo.com](mailto:ashersinafrica@yahoo.com)

## Prayer/Praise Requests

- Continued health 1  
for Ruth Pierson.  
She had another  
good check up!
- That the Lord will 2  
find donors to help  
solarize the hospital.
- Help raising the ad- 3  
ditional amount  
needed for the start-  
up fund.
- The Sierra Leone 4  
Wesleyan Church
- Marc, who started 5  
classes at WVU on  
August 18th
- The sale of our 6  
horse farm

\*\*\*\*\*

- To become a financial or prayer partner in our ministry [Click Here.](#)
- Asher family fund WM04-0332 or Start Up fund WM06-1272.
- We also need 400 people willing to pray for us on a weekly basis
- We currently have 75% of our support budget pledged.
- We currently have 92% of our start up budget donated.

# Ashers In Africa

Volume 1 Issue 6

Newsletter Date Aug.-Sept.2008

## Home Mission Notes

August and September seem almost like a blur to us. We have been so blessed to have scheduled many churches in our last few months. We were able to attend our own church in Ottawa Lake, Michigan the first week in August, The second week found Tom speaking in Parsons, WV at the Nazarene Church, while Karen was in Central, SC speaking to the Wesleyan Church. Both churches showed us so much hospitality and true Christian love. This time spent raising our supporters is really encouraging to us. Our friend June Morehart suggested that we keep a journal of all the wonderful experiences we have had and the people who have been put in our path just at the right time. We have taken her advise and we know that when things get tough on the field looking back on this journal will refresh and encourage us again. Thank you, all our dear friends!

Speaking of thank you we don't want to forget the wonderful friends who have spent so much time at our office helping Karen sort and pack the care packages and medical supplies. The Allen family, Jody Hopkins, Melanie Hall, Sharon Nichols and Amy Eisman have worked tirelessly helping us pack to follow all the rules needed to send the items safely to Kamakwie Wesleyan Hospital.

We plan to rent a truck and take the boxes to Louisiana in late September or early October. We still are looking for donations of material that the women of the church need for their community outreach. They invite the ladies in their areas to come to the church to learn to sew. This teaches the women a trade and in turn the items that are made are sold to earn money to build churches. If you have fabric either in yardage or scraps that you would like to donate, you can mail



them to our home address.  
Thanks!

We are presently scheduling more speaking engagements. If you would like us to come to your church or group to speak please call us! We are currently scheduling speaking engagements in November. If you have a bible study group or Sunday school class we are willing to come speak with them also. As we travel we find that speaking individually with people is the best way to answer the questions about the work and the call.

Tom's cell 419-344-2341  
Karen's cell 419-349-1399

## A message from the mission field!

Recently Karen was invited to speak at Baker's Street Community Church in Wisconsin Rapids, WI. They were having their missionary weekend and she was honored to share the pulpit with Rev. Knox from Nicaragua. He is a dynamic speaker. During his Sunday sermon he made some points that we want to share with you. He spoke

about the three arms of missionary work, evangelism, discipleship and compassion. Sometimes when people refer to us as missionaries we feel a bit awkward. We aren't preachers, and we aren't church planters. We are just family physicians who want to care for the sick and injured. So often we don't feel like "real" missionaries. He

pointed out that in James it speaks of faith without works. Even though we aren't ministers we are ministering through compassion, through works. I guess we are "real" missionaries and you are too! All the supplies and care packages you have supplied for the people of Sierra Leone are an outward expression of the love you have

## More insight from Rev. Knox

inside. He also elaborated on the need for local, regional and foreign mission work. The great commission commands us to do all three. So how can we be three places at once? We should physically be where we are called to be, but our prayers and financial support can make us part of missions in the other areas.

Then he challenged us by saying, "When you are really involved in something you treat it differently than when you are merely acquainted with it." He gave the example of how we might pray for our children or grandchildren vs. praying for a missionary that we don't know very well. I was truly convicted by this. I have many missionaries that I pray for regularly but do I take the time to really read their newsletters and print them out so I can bring their needs to the Lord in prayer regularly? I need to do that so I can fulfill my role in other missions.

And finally he spoke of what it means to give sacrificially for the kingdom. Here in America we are so used to immediate gratification that we don't even think of all the money we spend. How many times have I stopped for fast food when I have plenty of food at home that would be better for me and is already purchased? I would only need to wait a few minutes to get there or take a few minutes to pack it

before I leave. Surely there is no question that our economy has reduced all our spendable income, but couldn't we free up some finances by spending more wisely?

After Rev. Knox and I spoke, Rev. Milt from Bakers Street Community Church challenged us. He ask us what would be the result if we all gave up one meal at a restaurant and instead gave just that money

to a missionary that we supported or if we took the time to email a missionary to encourage them and ask for specific names of

people that we could pray for? When we give out of our plenty or use some of our time in prayer that we haven't planned for it is easy but not a very deep involvement. But when we give up something we want or take time to pray specifically we are more involved. As it says in Matthew, where your treasure is, there will be where your heart is.

I hope these words from the pastors have challenged you. They challenged me. You do make a difference. You are missionaries!

God Bless You!



Two and three patients to one bed. We are praying that the Lord will give us strength to care for all those in need.



These are some of the children who are anxiously awaiting our return to Sierra Leone. The second photo is our new home, We are becoming more excited about the move. We hope to leave either the last week of Nov. or the first week of Dec.



August saw our Marc starting classes at WVU. He is so happy to be there that we feel a bit guilty about the sense of loss that we feel not having him home anymore. It takes a bit of time to get used to that empty room. We are so proud of him. He is really enjoying his new responsibilities and freedoms. We have placed him in the care of the Lord. He has been His all along anyway!

Matthew is in the thick of football practices now. Two a days. He looked so tired when he came home. He must really love it to challenge himself that way. School will started after Labor day. It is hard to believe our youngest is a Sophomore and at least 4 inches taller than Mom.

Tom as been working quite a few shifts at our local emergency room. He staffs the urgent care side. This keeps our bills paid but it also gives him exposure to many things that will help him in Africa.

Karen has been sorting and sorting. What can go to Africa? What needs to be put in storage with relatives? What needs to be sold? She has also been packing for the shipment of medical supplies for Africa. And finally she has been researching ways to sell our farm in Michigan. The economy has made for a very poor real estate market. If you want to take the challenges these are specific prayer areas for the Ashers!

God Bless you, Tom, Karen, Marc and Matt Asher