



Ashers In Africa

Medical and Technical Advisors to Christian Health Association of Sierra Leone

November 2013

Volume 1, Issue 2

Prayer Requests:

- Safety for Drs. Tom and Karen as they travel back to Sierra Leone Nov. 26th
- Swift and efficient installation of solar power at Panguma Hospital
- Safe travel and productive time for the medical students, physicians and church teams coming this year
- Patience and wisdom as we learn our new role as the advisors to CHASL.

Medical Supplies, layettes, sewing cards and bandages can be mailed to :

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The Summer of 2013

Now that we have a clear understanding of the work we will be doing in Sierra Leone for the next four years, we came back to the US to prepare for the upcoming year. We were able to speak at some of our supporting churches and actually spoke at some new churches in Lumberton, NC, Fairmont, NC, Youngstown, OH, Fairmont, WV, Largo, FL. and Sunbury, PA.. Dr. Tom spent four days each week doing locum tenens work at family practice offices and at the Ohio correctional institutions. We were able to spend some time with each of our children and other family members also. Marc Eric graduated from WVU in May and it was great to have the kids together with other family members to celebrate with him. On September 16, our son Marc married Elleonor Dupryne. Leo, as we call her is from France and is also studying Law. Marc and Leo will live in Morgantown until they finish their applications for law school. They plan on attending school on the west coast. We also spent a bit of time downsizing,, Being a bit more certain that we will spend more time in missions, we got rid of more things that tied us to our old life in Michigan. Tom sold his four wheelers that we had not donated to the mission. We cleaned out the storage unit we were renting and Tom and Matt, our youngest son who is a junior in engineering at WVU, moved all the items to either WV or Florida. Our friend, Erika, sold what we didn't want to save in her garage sale.. For the last 3 months before leaving we lived in our camper at Whiteford Wesleyan Church in MI. It was great to attend services when we were around. It was so kind of the church to let us "camp" there, but MI gets a bit "nippy" in November. I think that was God's way of telling us it was time to go back to Sierra Leone, as it is never "nippy" there.

But even when we are home, the mission work continues. We were able to help Coleen and Mike Szyskowski to pack and send off two 40ft. containers of medical supplies and through MAP and Chrisitan Reilief, two 20 ft. containers of medications. And just when we stood back to admire an empty space, it started filling up again. Over the last few months we had been storing our medical supplies in a house that Mike was refurbishing. We really needed to get out of the house and into a warehouse. We put the plea out and Sharon offered us her pole barn. We moved many supplies in right away. But then we were



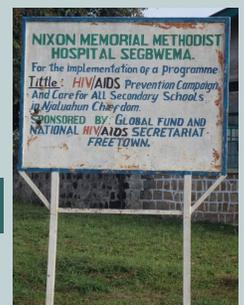
Panguma Hospital

offered a truck load of supplies and a forklift and a pallette mover. Mike and I drove to Alexandria, LA and picked up this most generous gift. This was truly a trip on faith. We were

Nixon Memorial Methodist Hospital

bringing back four pallettes of supplies, file cabinets, wheelchairs, a pallette lifter and a

forklift and yet we had no place to deliver them to. On the way back to Toledo, we got a call that a warehouse had become available. God has perfect timing, we just have to trust him. Three days later a 22 ft truck of supplies came from Through These Hands. A day or two later thirty boxes came from University of Toledo, then more from Little Sisters of the Poor and then 70 boxes from Indianapolis. This makes us ready to ship another container as soon as the container becomes available and we receive enough in donations for WAEMM to pay for the clearing costs. Arms Around Africa and Christian Relief most generously ship our containers to Sierra Leone, but it is our responsibility to pay the clearing costs within the country. This usually amounts to about \$3000 per container. We would ask you to join us in prayer so that the money for this shipment comes in quickly. With 12 hospitals and 40 clinics the need for medical supplies is enormous.



A Special Way to help the ministry

Recently someone suggested that I send out the plea for over the counter medications like Tylenol, Motrin and Aspirin, both adult and children's, and creams like antifungal creams and triple antibiotic cream. We use enormous amounts of these items, especially the children's chewable Tylenol. In the US, some employers have a sort of medical savings plan that the employee can buy over the counter medications and then get reimbursed for the money they spent on them, The plan is zeroed out on Dec. 31st even if there is still money left in the account. Purchasing these items with the remaining money in the account and mailing them to WAEMM would be very helpful to us.

Solar Power in Panguma

As we get ready to send this letter to you, a new exciting project is going on in Sierra Leone! A new solar system is being installed in Panguma Hospital. And even before it is installed the new oxygen concentrator that they need to provide continuous oxygen for the pneumonia patients and new babies is waiting to be shipped. This new solar will provide enough electricity to do deliveries at night and do lab work at night. This will save many lives. Thank you all for providing the funds to WAEMM so this can be completed.

Three Hospitals with ultrasound abilities

Praise the Lord! Enough money was raised to provide two new portable rechargeable ultrasounds this year. Tom and I will be carrying them back as our carry-ons. In addition, the portable ultrasound from KWH will be able to be repaired and will be carried back by one of the teams coming in the spring. Through CHASL, Dr. Karen will be teaching ultrasound classes to the hospitals. Ultrasound can save a mother and a baby's life. It is also very useful in trauma cases and problems in the abdomen. We are so grateful that we will be able to assist the medical practioners in Sierra Leone with this equipment and education.

What is under your Christmas tree this year?

As we enter this holiday season I would ask you to consider this. What is the reason for this season? It is to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In agreeing on this, do we agree that there should be more under the tree for that blessed Savior than for others? Now wait a minute, you say, how do I do that? Christ was very specific with his instructions in Matthew 25. When you do it for the least of these, you do it for Him. So I challenge you. If this is His birthday celebration, then lets do it for the least of these and therefore do it for Him. Don't just give out of your excess this year. Spend as much on Him and the least of these as you do on your own. Read the Christmas story before your family dives into those piles of presents. Make sure the blessing at your Christmas dinner includes sincere gratitude for His provisions. And make sure to make time to give to someone who is less fortunate than you are. He is concerned about the poor and the sick and the lonely. He made the perfect Christmas card to send to these people that need to feel His love. He made YOU!

Merry Christmas May God Bless you and yours!

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! Drs. Thomas and Karen Asher

The Jesus film showing in many Sierra Leone tribal languages. Now also available in Fula!

Check out the web page over the next few weeks. We are redoing it and it will have a new look and new pictures!

www.waemm.com

We're on the Web!

www.waemm.com

Donations can be made through the web site or by mailing contributions to WAEMM