



"Then the King will say, 'for I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you have clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me,'" Matt. 25:35-36

NEWSLETTER, Nov. 2015

Dear Friends and Family,

As I tried to put this newsletter together, I was again reminded that when we meet with family and friends it is time to give thanks to God for His faithfulness. My prayer is that we can experience love and joy in Him as we get together.

Many families today are facing very difficult situations such as the loss of jobs, the loss of homes, the loss of health, and the loss of loved ones. During this time of pain, it is difficult to give thanks. I have experienced this with my aged body. I am also thinking of the hundreds of thousands of refugees who have fled their homeland seeking a better life. We must keep praying for them to find refuge.

But, sometimes God uses pain to draw us to Himself. I do not understand His ways when we are called to thank Him in pain, "For My thoughts are not your thoughts; neither are your ways My ways, declares the Lord" (Isaiah 55: 8). "Blessed be the Lord because He has heard the voice of my supplication. The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and I am helped" (Psalm 28-6-7).

Second Floor Development

The plan for the second floor continues to be developed by Mark Olson. Mark is an expert in the concrete business and has invested many hours in adjusting the floor plan to get the best outcome for the space we have. We are very grateful for his service. It is amazing that the development of the present floor plan is near completion. Mark's plan assures safety. The next stage is to connect with the carpenter and engineer in Guyana.



A great amount of cement will be needed for the second floor, as both the floor and roof would be made of concrete. A concrete roof would pave the way for a solar power system and protection from heavy rain storms which damage roofs. A solar power system is needed because the cost of electricity is extremely high. There are days when there is limited or no electricity at our location in Guyana. We are forced to use a generator quite often, which can become rather expensive.

Ethiopia, Kentucky and GO Working in Partnership

For quite some time we have been working on a three-way partnership between Ethiopia, two churches in Kentucky, and Guyanese Outreach (GO).



On April 14, 2015, I flew to Ethiopia and joined Pastor Dave Shockey and the team from Hebron and Hopeful Lutheran Churches in Kentucky.



We also met with Rev. Destaye Crawford from Every Tribe and Tongue Church in Minneapolis. Rev. Destaye is from Ethiopia. The team went ahead of me to attend a conference.

This trip was intended for us to meet those persons responsible in the decision making to form a three-way partnership with Mekane Yesus in Ethiopia,

the two Kentucky churches, and Guyanese Outreach.

We were delighted to meet with the Rev. Dr. Wakseyoum Idossa, President of the 7+ million member Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (abbreviated EECMY & called simply Mekane Yesus, or "Home of Jesus," for short). President Wakseyoum was very receptive to our idea for a three-way partnership, as well as the desire for a cross-cultural leader to come from Ethiopia. He was presented with a Bible as a symbolic gift of our partnership in spreading the Word together.



GO is most grateful to Pastors Dave Shockey and Blair Fields and the people of Hebron and Hopeful Lutheran Churches in Northern Kentucky, for giving GO this opportunity to have a partnership with Mekane Yesus.



Ruth signing an agreement for the partnership.



At lunch, discussing the possibility of a cross-cultural person to Guyana.



We were blessed to have a meeting with Wondimu Mathewos Game, Leader of EECMY's International Missions Society and Almwari Gari, member of the IMS Board and Treasurer of Mekane Yesus.

As we discussed the many needs of GO and the qualifications needed by a cross-cultural person, we all concluded that it would be best to have a husband and wife team for Guyana instead of one person. We left the meeting feeling very blessed for this partnership,

acknowledging that God is in control for the expansion of His kingdom.

On August 3rd, GO hosted Rev. Yonas Yigezu Dibisa (Director of Mekane Yesus' Department of Mission and Theology) and Wondimu Mathewos Game (Mekane Yesus' International Mission Society's Director) in Minneapolis as they discussed plans for GO and met with the diaspora.



Much time was spent in prayer and also discussing the history of Guyanese Outreach. GO started its mission in 1994 with humanitarian aid. People's testimonies reflected the help they received through GO, including the gift of education and evangelism. GO is entering its twentieth year and, because of your partnership, continues to bear fruit.

Through the discussion, we also came to realize that both Mekane Yesus and GO have a holistic ministry of body, soul and spirit. Rev. Yonas and Wondimu, after much prayer, were guided by the Holy Spirit and decided to send a husband and wife team to Guyana. We are now awaiting God's plan to get the team ready for Guyana.

Education Continues in Guyana

The gift of education is well appreciated by the community. The literacy and computer/math programs help the children to successfully pass their primary school examinations. These examinations are for entrance into high school, which will then lead to better jobs.



In Memory of Jim Schutz



Jim Schutz

In this season of thanksgiving, we also want to thank God for each one of you who has co-labored since 1995 to the present. God knows you by name and your reward is in heaven.

One of our faithful co-laborers is not with us any longer, and we want to pay tribute to him. Jim Schutz went home to be with our Lord. Jim faithfully packed computers until GO stopped humanitarian aid to Guyana. Jim was mission-minded. He was happy that the computer training would help the people to get better jobs. Jim served GO from 1996 to 2007.

A Thankful Heart

As the year comes to a close, and as we reflect on our mission's growth, we want to express our gratitude for your continued prayers and support. Special thanks to Discover Church, our main supporter, and Hope Lutheran Church, without which we could not keep the doors open.

There is now a great financial need as we contemplate the start of building the second floor. The cost is now higher than estimated because of the amount of concrete needed. In addition to adding a second floor we are enclosing the 'tent' area on the ground level making it less susceptible to the weather. These changes in design have increased the cost to approximately \$80,000. We are appealing for your prayers and financial help.

Many of you may have stocks and bonds and other ways that you may be able to contribute. If you're planning to shop on Amazon this holiday season, you can also help GO by logging into smile.amazon.com. You can designate Guyanese Outreach as your non-profit of choice. Amazon will then make a donation to GO.

Your donations will help us build our second floor addition. This addition is for the present and future Kingdom expansion, reflected in our Lord's command, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..." (Matthew 28:19).

Guyanese Outreach is a tax-exempt and approved 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

The Board and I wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving and a blessed Christmas holiday.



"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you"

(Philippians 1:3).

Ruth