



"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

November, 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Time seems to fly by so swiftly. It is time again when families and friends gather together to celebrate Thanksgiving and look forward for the Joy of Christmas.

In this year of 2017, so much has happened around us and around the world. Hurricanes have brought poverty, devastation and starvation. Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Mexico and Puerto Rico especially have been hit very hard.

We cannot forget the horrible shooting that took so many lives in Las Vegas and the four soldiers that lost their lives in the ambush. Heroic kindness and sacrifices were made by many who risked their lives while a few even lost their own lives to save others.

While there are many unanswered questions of why all this destruction, I choose simple faith and rest on His Word: Isaiah 55: 8-9, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways."

Father God of all comforts calls us to seek Him. "Call to Me and I will answer you, and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know." Jer.33:3

And now, our update. In September 2016, I left for Guyana to start the first phase of construction. The construction goal was to add a three-floor extension. Before I left, the challenge was whether to start the first phase (the first floor and the exterior walls of the three floors) without having most of the funds to finish.

We kept praying and trusting. I witnessed another example of the mighty Hand of God. I was reminded in prayer to trust in His Word but also to see His Mighty Hand at work. Just 2 days before I left, Guyanese Outreach(GO) received an unexpected donation that covers a significant portion of phase one. Father God works in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform. By the time I returned home in late December 2016, most of first phase was completed, and some of phase two started.

After a brief rest at home, I returned to Guyana in April of 2017 to continue the second phase. By the grace of God, you have continued to encourage us with your prayers and sacrificial giving to be close to a shell-ready building, including a roofed third floor Veranda for mission teams to relax or have bible studies.

It is beautiful up there, viewing the many coconut trees and taking in the ocean breeze. One can hardly believe that our “tent” is now this beautiful building. We give God all Glory.



Pastor Rakesh of the Living Waters Church near our school and a few of his members and staff gave God glory and honor and praise for the building that serves the community.

The vision from the beginning was to have a building where teams from the US can go in service, addressing physical and spiritual needs of the poor.

This vision would not be possible without the partnership of churches from three continents:

Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY); Hebron Lutheran Church and Hopeful Lutheran Church (LCMC) in Hebron, Kentucky; and Hope Lutheran Church in Minnesota and of course, the long standing support of my home church, Discover Church in Minnesota. Our partnership continues to evolve as we learn how to better address evangelical needs.

It is our hope and prayer that you would consider helping us. We need to furnish the bed rooms with beds and other furnishings.

We need a commercial size stove with an exhaust system, a refrigerator, freezer, and ceiling fans. We need to paint the interior and exterior. We need a large generator. We are thinking about how to add solar panels which will reduce our huge electrical bills and permit more rooms to be air conditioned. The summers are unbearably hot in Guyana.

As I reflect on where we are, I vividly remember our poor and humble beginning. Do you recall that back in 1994, two of my sons travelled with me to Guyana to start this mission? Two weeks later, my sons returned to the US and I remained, seeking Father God's direction while teaching sewing under houses that were built on stilts.

Six weeks later, His direction was for me to return to the US and collect humanitarian aid as the country was then in dire need. GO's mission was and remains to first take care of physical needs. Spiritual need will follow.

My question to Father God back then was: how is this all possible since we have no money. His answer to me was "watch and see Me provide." My trust and faith at that time was very limited. I did not really grasp that Father God is true to His Word. Has HE provided? Yes! He IS true to His promises.

He has called forth so many of you. He has used your hands, your feet for those that traveled to Guyana, your time and energy for those that tireless help us with shipments, your specialized talents like those who helped us with curricula development for our computer classes, our functional literacy and math classes, and yes, for all of those that have also contributed your money. We have obeyed and 23 years later, so much has been accomplished. You were chosen and believed in what we are doing and have sacrificed your time, labor, prayers and finances.



GO continues our literacy classes. The government of Guyana acknowledged the severity of illiteracy by mandating that all primary students remain in school for its own after-school remedial lessons.

Nonetheless, GO continues to serve the poor and slower students with our own program. We are also evaluating whether to start a teen suicide prevention program and seek help in its development.



GO gives a healthy snack to both the literacy and math students as they are in primary school all day.



GO's math class continues to grow and is one of our more popular programs. Primary students use our iPads and Android tablets to play educational math games to gain proficiency and learn about computers at an early age.



GO has just entered a working relationship with Pastor Chandra Nandkumar, (known as Pastor Rakesh). His presence and help will help to strengthen our local staff.

Girma, our missionary through the partnership with Ethiopia and Kentucky spent nine months in Guyana. Unfortunately, his wife was unable to get a transit visa via Canada or New York to join him in Guyana.

He worked with Emmanuel Lutheran Church and prepared Sunday School lessons. His work, however, was interrupted because he had to return to Ethiopia because his mother-in-law passed away and he had to be with his wife in their time of grief.

Our sewing/craft class continues to grow. The women first learn to do various stitches and then on to hand embroidery making hand towels and pillow cases. They then move on to making cushions and other items. They also learn to knit.



Community activities:



The primary school at #71 Village, now has a bible study program. The government recently permitted public schools to have Bible Study Clubs. The #71 primary school Bible study is taught by Mrs. Rakesh. What a joy! It is very important that an early age, children learn to love, help and respect one

another, instill good values, and yes, learn about God.

GO's center continues to be used by the community. The Rotarians have gatherings for students from various primary schools to compete in spelling Bees and to also distribute humanitarian aid.



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

As you shop this holiday season, we are encouraging you to 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.

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." Phillipians 1:3

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