

BRUBAKERS' PRAYER UPDATE – OCTOBER 2008

DEAR PRAYING FRIENDS –

“Amazi arashuha ntiyibagirwa i wabo wa mbeho.” (Or in English, “Water heats up without forgetting its original home of cold.”) The Rwandese use this proverb to explain how a person can live outside of RwandaN culture for a period of time. But, once he goes home, he quickly remembers how to be Rwandan. I suppose it is the same for Americans. But, the transition from a third-world impoverished country to a first-world country is not without its bumps. Thanks for sustaining us through your prayers.

NOTES OF PRAISE –

- **Home Assignment Ministry:** We had some great contacts, this month, with churches, ministries and prospective missionaries. The Theological Book Network in Grand Rapids agreed to donate 10,000 books to NCM's library. We visited with an awesome church in Alsip, Illinois. And, I (Tim) spent a day helping recruit at Moody Bible Institute, having good conversations with professors and students. It's been a productive month.
- **French Language Study:** Jessica finished her first term of study at the Alliance Francaise in Chicago. It was a great class (only two other students). And, she is confident that it will be a big assistance to her, as she plans to continue studying next February (after our major travels are completed).
- **Transitional Stress:** We're feeling a little bit more settled. Thanks to the hospitality of friends from our church, we had a two really great trips to southern Michigan where we spent some very quiet time together as a family.

ITEMS FOR PRAYER –

- **New England Trip:** Tuesday, October 14, we travel to New England. We're visiting with my (Tim's) friends from many years ago in Vermont and sharing with their AWANA program on Wednesday, October 15. Over the weekend of October 17-19, we'll be with First Baptist Church in Portland, Maine. From October 22 to 27, we will be with Faith Baptist Church in Manchester, Connecticut. Please pray for good travels and a great time of reconnecting with friends and supporters.
- **Upper Peninsula Trip:** On Friday, October 31, we will travel to Iron River, Michigan, to spend the weekend with First Baptist Church, where I (Tim) worked as a summer youth intern in 1997.
- **Transitional Stress:** Please pray for wisdom in preparing in advance for the long stretch of six months during which time we will be living in Chicago. We have intentionally set aside this long stretch of time to be used for French study and to stay (mainly) in one place. Please pray that we will make wise decisions regarding how we set up the logistics of those months so that we go back to Rwanda feeling renewed and ready.
- **Pastoral Training School:** Please pray for the group of pastors who are currently studying in NCM's Pastoral Training School. This first year class will finish on October 24.
- **NCM Construction:** NCM is a growing ministry. And, so our need for facilities is becoming a pressing issue. (We've already run out of office space. And, the number of books that have recently been donated will just barely fit in the current library!) At the end of this month, a missionary engineering group will be visiting NCM to survey our land and help us make wise decisions about its

development. Please pray that it is a helpful time. And, pray for the provision of financial resources to start building soon.

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHT –

I've daydreamed all my life about things like this! Walking through a theological library with permission to take whatever I want. Of course, when I visited the Theological Book Network's warehouse, I wasn't picking out books for myself. But, it felt like it. The experience was the result of two years' worth of dialogue about a potential partnership between TBN's ministry and NCM's library efforts. Last Spring, as we were planning to leave for the States, I called TBN (located in Grand Rapids) from Rwanda and asked if I could visit them and talk about getting a donation of books (they collect books from libraries and publishers to donate to third-world theological libraries). They were open to the idea. So, three weeks ago, we sat down for coffee. They asked many probing questions about New Creation Ministries. And, after about ninety minutes, the director asked frankly, "What do you want?" I said, "Ten thousand books." He said, "OK." It was that easy. And, ten thousand titles is exactly what we need to have to apply for accreditation for NCM's college level degree program. Wow! God is really paving the way.

Thanks for Praying,

Tim, Jessica, Thomas, Martin & Cecilia