

Scheer's January Update – 2005

Dear Friends,

Here's our first update for this new year, 2005. Let's start out with a new feature -- "Something to write home about".

SOMETHING TO WRITE HOME ABOUT

Tim Brubaker, our new CBI missionary, and I went for a trip to visit one of our students in the Pastoral Training Program (PTP). It was a beautiful drive into central Rwanda. The pastor lives on the steep mountainsides dropping down to the wide slow-flowing Nyabarongo river far below. After dinner, the pastor came to show me where I'd be sleeping. He showed me to the room where he had taken my overnight bag, and there was Tim's overnight bag, too. There were only two pieces of furniture in the dirt-floored room -- a simple straight-backed chair and a single bed. That didn't leave too many options! Rwandese sleep two to a single bed all the time -- but when's the last time you did?? We laughed, both thought of Trains, Planes and Automobiles, and actually slept not too badly!



GOOD NEWS

Matthew, our son, is engaged!! to Ellie Wolke. He's in his third year of Moody's flight school. She's just received her nursing degree. The wedding date is set -- August 6, 2005!! We've had enough time with Ellie to know she's a great match for Matt.



Tim and Jessica Brubaker have just received their visas for Rwanda, have just moved into their house, and are making huge strides in learning Kinyarwanda. They are super motivated and gifted. We have excellent language helpers for them. And they're slowly learning the in and outs of this culture -- like how to sleep in a single bed with your boss! Also they, with Thomas (2) and Martin (7 months) stayed with Lor and I for 6 weeks while getting a house -- and it went very well.

LIFT THESE UP TO THE THRONE

Continue to pray for Rwandese staff. We need within the next few months another full-time Rwandese staffer for MNC -- we're not having many promising leads at this point. This is our most crucial request at this time.

February 1 we begin another session of the PTP. Pray especially for Laurent Katabirora as he prepares. He's working on a church history course -- it takes a lot of work.

Then in March we'll start a new set of students in the PTP. Pray for Laurent and I during these next two weeks. We'll be contacting church groups to get from them the candidate forms for the new class. We want at least 30 top quality new students from a good variety of church groups.

WISDOM OF RWANDA

<Umukobwa aba umwe agatukisha bose.>

"It might be but one girl, but she causes all to be put down."

This often heard proverb can be taken in two ways. From the side of those who put others down, we need to be careful that we don't put down a whole group or class of people because of the faults of one or a few.

From the side of the one bad girl who is bringing a bad name to the whole group, we need to realize that our behavior impacts the reputation of the group to which we belong (church, family, country) and so take care.

Partners in Him,
Gary and Laurie Scheer
CBI -- Rwanda