

Scheer's May Update

Dear Friends,

SOMETHING TO WRITE HOME ABOUT

As living standards in the States rise to ever more amazing heights it gets harder for visitors here to deal with common realities of life. When visitors go to churches out and about in Rwanda, inevitably they will come back and talk about the bathroom facilities -- or "Bathroom?? What's that?" Tough when most houses we visit in the States have at least 3!

BUT at times it can have it's pleasant side. Some years ago I was doing a 3-day seminar at a church way up in the hills overlooking Lake Kivu -- awesomely beautiful setting! Was it maybe that awesome view that caused them to put no doors on their outhouses?? The tiny one by the house was perched on the side of the hill with the opening looking out over the Lake a couple 1000 feet below -- though it had other drawbacks, you could see forever!

GOOD HAPPENINGS OF PRAISE

1. We had asked you pray for Andrew's summer plans -- he's got a job with an engineering firm within short biking distance of the campus. He's started now part-time during school to go full-time during the summer! His need now is for a good housing situation for the summer that isn't crazily expensive in Bay-area, California.
2. Gary Bennett is now married to Barabara Gish! Laurie was there as our representative from Rwanda.
3. We had put out a special update regarding the need for a home-assignment (HA) car. The answer came close to home, in fact, within the family. Laurie's mother no longer drives but still has her car. The family is putting off selling the car and is graciously allowing us to use it for the 6 months we'll be in the States. Thanks family!

TAKE THESE TO THE THRONE:

1. We are still working at building up a solid foundation of ongoing funding for the expenses of NCM. This is a key concern for the NCM leadership at this time.
2. The impact of NCM on the lives of our students is often powerful. It's rewarding for us as trainers/teachers to see them so eager and zealous to apply all they're learning here. **BUT** it's also scary -- why? Rwanda has very strong top-down leadership. It doesn't usually set well with the leaders over our students (supervisors, district leaders, denominational leaders) to see them trying new things, thinking outside the box. Pray for our students to have huge helpings of wisdom and slow-going patience!
3. We're working at HA plans for 2007. We'll leave Rwanda in January sometime and spend 6 months in the States visiting churches, supporters and family. Pray for us as we try to juggle dates and requests and expectations to put together a good schedule for that time.

KEEP LIFTING THESE UP

1. Keep praying for the web-site and DVD project. The guys coming to do the DVD will be here in mid-June. Pray we can develop these into sharp tools of communication.
2. Or son, Matthew in Spokane, is *STILL* looking for a solid job that will earn him enough money to go back to Moody's flight school in the fall. Nothing yet. He's getting even more discouraged. He also is looking to get his airline mechanics liscence and finding that there is a year-long waiting list for the test.
3. Laurie is just wrapping up her time in the States. She'll be home next Sunday the 28th! She said she's tired after 2 months away, but it been good.

WISDOM OF RWANDA

Uwo uzaheka ntumwisha urume.

The child you will carry on your back, you don't let him get all wet with dew.

Here's the idea: If a toddling or crawling child goes out early in the morning when the dew is heavy, you'll find him or her wet and muddy, here in Rwanda where yards are just swept clean dirt. So if you're planning on putting that child on your back (the common way to carry the child here) you'd better do it right away before he finds his way outside, or you'll either have to get him all cleaned up again before you put him on your back, or you'll get yourself all messy.

What does it mean: It's often better to do something you're planning sooner rather than later, because putting it off can cause the plan to meet with problems, making it harder to execute.

Partners in Him,
Gary and Laurie Scheer