

## Scheer's October Update

Dear Friends,

### **THE OTHER SIDE OF MINISTRY**

We're starting a new feature in this update. "The Other Side of Ministry". Our main ministry, as you know, is training leaders for the Rwandese churches. There is a whole other side to ministry that we don't talk much about, because it has become for us here in Rwanda just the background of our daily living. In the months to come we'll open a few windows to show you this other side of ministry.

A couple Sundays ago three teenage girls from the neighborhood came to visit us.



Having come in we offered them sodas and a little snack and prayed. We chatted and they sang a couple songs for us. In chatting we asked them if they went to church that morning. Louise said, "No, because we didn't have any soap in the house so we could clean up." In talking some more, Fiyette said there are times she hasn't gone to church because she has no shoes, just flip-flops. They're even starting to kick kids out of school who don't have real shoes.

That's the other side of ministry -- giving a bar of soap and looking through Laurie's shoes to see if there might be a pair to fit Louise or Fiyette.

## **GOOD HAPPENINGS OF PRAISE**

1. Our NCM administrator, Marc, doesn't have a house yet, BUT it's on the way! We (NCM) are going to advance him money from his housing allowance so he can get started. It won't completely finish the house, but it will get them into it and they can do the finishing bit by bit.
2. Audrey Sorensen is here! She arrived in Rwanda last Saturday morning. She's committed to at least 4 years to establish the children's program of NCM called "Friends of Jesus". Pray with us that she can get 1) a good housing situation, 2) a good language helper, 3) a good Rwandese partner for the work.
3. What an invigorating way to start the day -- walking into class at 7AM and have our 22 students stand and sing "We've been totally set free in Christ! Let us press on, overcoming every trial and obstacle, believing and persevering to the end!" Some clapping, some with hands raised, some with faces lifted and eyes closed, all moving and all singing with all their hearts! Who needs a stiff cup of coffee!

## **TAKE THIS TO THE THRONE**

Friday Tim, Laurent and Gary head off on a 3 day trip to visit 4 of their students. It involves a lot of driving, hard sleeping arrangements, and food that often ends up leaving unwanted intruders in the stomach. Pray for strength and health. These trips are also exciting as we see the fruit of our discipling in action.

## **KEEP LIFTING THESE UP**

1. We've rounded up 12 university students and recent grads to start the discipleship process on October 14. I can hardly wait to get started! This is a pilot project for these 2 months until Christmas. If it bears fruit this will become a key project for me when we get back from Home Assignment (HA) in August of next year.
2. As president of the Kumbya Conference I've been glad to see some good steps being taken to secure the legal status of Kumbya as an organization and to secure the final legal authority over the Kumbya property. We've secured a Christian lawyer who thinks she can get us fully registered with the government before the end of the year. Pray for this. AND in an amazing way God has led us to a contact with a Christian whose business is developing eco-tourism sites around the world. If we can partner with him, that could be the answer to sensitively developing the Kumbya land so the government won't see it as being under-used and take it from us. Pray for this good development.
3. 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. We are running \$700/month short of meeting our monthly budget.
4. HA is just around the corner. Pray as we continue to set up the schedule. Soon we will be thinking about and preparing presentations for our supporters and churches. This is very difficult, because often we're given 5 minutes in a service, or 10 to 15 minutes in a Sunday school class to connect to the hearts of our churches. It has to be very carefully considered and prayed over.

## WISDOM OF RWANDA

Nyir'umutwe munini ntarengwa n'imijugujugu.  
Whirling sticks don't miss the one with a big head.

I just heard this one and like the picture of it. Imijugujugu are sticks or staffs that are thrown at an enemy. They whirl through the air towards the target -- the word is onomatopoeic (the word sounds like the sound of the stick spinning through the air). The one with the big head is the one in an important position.

So picture all these sticks whirling through the air -- jugujugu -- and there's this guy with a great big head. They're going to be aimed at him because he's the easiest target. Get the idea?

People in important positions are going to be the target of all sorts of attacks -- true here in Rwanda, true anywhere!

Partners in Him,  
Gary and Laurie Scheer