

June 12, 2010

Dear partners,

Yes, we're still alive! Some of you have written and asked us that question! We hadn't realized how long it had been since we'd written! The main reason we haven't written is that there really isn't much news. Cherri continues with the proof reading of the Lauje New Testament. She is presently in 2 Corinthians 5. It seems the closer we get to the finish the harder it becomes, and the harder our enemy tries to discourage us. The proof reading is going slower than we thought; it's not something you can speed up as the work is so meticulous. Please keep praying. We are just past two-thirds of the way through, so thank God for that!

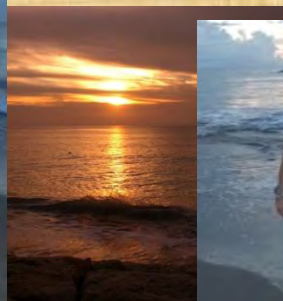


I made a trip to central Java the end of April for field leadership meetings as well as interviewing some of our new missionary families. On my return home, I was greeted not only by Cherri but by David (our son), Melissa and boys who had arrived the previous day from the States on their way back to Papua, Indonesia to continue their ministry there with the Arimtap people. It was good to have four days with them. David's shoulder is doing okay, though certainly not back to normal. He and the family are now back interior and starting back into trying to learn the difficult language of the Arimtap people.

Jodi and Jason and kids are presently visiting family, friends and churches in Ontario, Canada this month. Maya (7) broke her arm last month, then reinjured in when she fell on her cast, causing some misalignment of the bone. The doctor feels that as she grows, it will straighten out. Please pray for the Lord to add to their financial support team. They plan to return to Indonesia in August.

Two weeks ago some of us from our leadership team, both Indonesian and non Indonesian, met together here in Manado for several days to discuss the future direction of our efforts as we seek to be both strategic and relevant.

In between my two sets of meetings, we took some time away for a much needed vacation. Though we do a lot of traveling, it's usually for ministry or medical reasons. We realized that we were feeling very drained (and to be honest, "down"), so felt it would be good to get away for a time of rest, reading, praying and just relaxing together. Unfortunately I was sick with the flu for part of the time but we are still thankful for the time away.



Pray that I will stay encouraged in the Lord so I can be a help to others. I have found that I need to let go of a lot of my leadership responsibilities for a time.



We haven't had much news from Lauje since we haven't been able to make radio contact with them for the last two weeks. We were sorry to hear that one of our main church leaders was accused of getting involved with someone else's wife as he was seen working in a garden with her when she was by herself. He was just trying to be helpful, but the place where he is teaching forbids that kind of behavior. Keep praying that the Lord would give us new team members to meet the tremendous needs for advancement of the Lauje church. Most groups are standing firm but in one or two places there is reason for concern and we need to see these places

getting some spiritual input from the more mature believers. There is a lot of pressure from without as well as difficulties within. The Helicopter is parked for the summer as the pilot is away on home assignment and it won't be in operation again until sometime in August. We hope to make an overland trip before then and we have plans for elders from another language group to pay a visit soon to encourage the Lauje believers.

Cherri's mom and dad are doing relatively well as far as we can tell. (They don't like to worry us!) Mom is thrilled to be able to get out to church and other places now that God supplied the handicap-fitted van for them. Dad no longer has to struggle to try to transfer her from her wheelchair to the car. She can just drive her power chair up into the van and then off they go!

Cherri and I began marriage counseling with a young couple this week. They look to be the perfect family but they are struggling with some areas in their marriage and asked if we would help them. One of them is an American and the other is Indonesian. We don't believe that either of them have put their trust in the Lord as their Savior. Please pray that we will have God's wisdom as we listen to their problems. Pray that as they see their issues resolved, the Lord will help them see their need of Him, not only in their marriage but in their individual lives.

We are also meeting with a new young missionary couple every other week to help them with their adjustments. They are already submerged in Indonesian culture and language study and that can add a lot of stress to the family. Pray that we will be an encouragement to them.



In few days two young Indonesian single lady missionaries will be coming to stay with us for awhile. Yuniar, or Uni, as we call her (on the right), serves the Tugutil people, while Deice has just graduated from missionary training a week ago and intends to partner with Uni. We want to give them a place to call home while they make plans for the next steps in their service for the Lord and be an encouragement in whatever way we can.

That about sums up the events making up our lives these days. As always, we are so thankful for your prayer and financial support and words of encouragement. No one could ever ask for more!

We send our love and prayers to each of you,

Barrie & Cherri