

Jesse and Karie Pryor & Naleh, Elijah, Judah

November 10, 2010

Hello all,

It has been a while since we have written one of these. The first week of November is now over and we are playing our "Christmas" playlist now. I am teaching the children Christmas carols that they would normally never hear in PNG. So far they really like *We Three Kings* and ask everyday if we can decorate for Christmas. We are reading Thanksgiving poems and the history of that holiday. Last week we carved pumpkins and even had a special treat of a jar of homemade apple butter from Grandma Peck that disappeared way too fast!

We are in Samban now and plan to be until mid-December. This year has simply flown by. Big milestones this year were: 4 milling operations, 1 new Translation Office built for PBT translators in Samban, and 1 house built for PBT's new Ap Ma translator, Jill Riepe. Besides the bigger building projects, we have also had smaller ones which include: lockable library cabinets, Preschool Curriculum development, and teacher training. This is added to the "normal" day-to-day items such as: maintaining our airstrip, homeschooling kids, evacuating medical emergencies, handling finances for the school, clinic, and mission station and employing 15 national employees at least part-time as teachers, clinic workers, construction workers, etc. We have much for which to give thanks. Those of you who keep up with us individually know that we have just come through a "season" of death here. In one month 5 men and women under age 30 died, all of different causes; but to a community of less than 3000, it was a lot to bear. Then, last week a man in his 50's passed away from TB. We know God has a plan and we do what we can to use these sad times to talk with our friends and children about the hope we have in Christ and how important it is to believe.

We were blessed this month to work with a building team from Georgia that came to help build Jill's new house. They were a hard working group with a servant attitude and we wish we could have had more time to get to know them better. Later this month, we are planning to work on the clinic site and get the posts welded for the new clinic building. This has been delayed due to the odd seasons this year. It has been so dry that villages that are usually above the water for 9 months had only water under them for 4 months. Without the water in the creek bed, it becomes impossible to run the outboard motors on the canoes and get the mill into places where there is timber. So the plan is to weld up the iron posts with brackets to hold the bearers and pray for rain so that we can mill the needed timber in January. Our other year-end projects are to install PVC guttering on the Literacy Center building for water collection and plant a rice field before the rains come.

The school has run well this year with 5 classes; 3 Kindergarten classes, 1 Grade One, and 1 Grade Two. We are all looking forward to school closing on December 10th. The children are working on a play acting out the stories of Joseph and his coat, and his Egyptian days. This is the first children's play done here with costumes and backdrops etc. They will be performing in the Ap Ma language which is also new for our kids. In January, we start all over again training a new batch of teachers for a couple of new schools that we will be helping to open up and start working out the standardized grade one curriculum.

The clinic is still operational 6 days a week and 7, in case of emergency. We have had many, many evacuations this year, but many more we were able to treat here. We look forward to the new clinic with inpatient services where we can hold more severe cases over night.

Alex Kamba, who went away this year for nurses training, has completed his first year in a two-year program. He will be returning to Samban in December anxious to help out in the clinic as he can. After next year, his hope is to go on to obtain a higher level nursing degree and then return to Samban to work with us in the new clinic.

Clementine Sau is graduating from Kainidi teachers college on December 1st and we are in hopes that she will return to help us here in Samban next year in our Elementary. Thank you to all who helped and supported her through her years there! She was the first participant in the OIPNG Scholarship Program. This program is designed to assist local Ap Ma youth in their academic pursuits and bring them back into their community to be of service to their people.

We apologize for not keeping in better communication. As you can see it has been busy, but also throw in an added complication of our computer crashing, has been a main reason why we have not been keeping up. We lost many of our email addresses and contact information. So now that we are able to "catch a breath" before we finish out the year, we would like to say thank you for your prayers. Quite simply, we have felt them. Your support, in all its facets, is priceless to us.

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