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A plea for support!

We are living at 50% of our annual budget. We invite you to partner with us as we minister with Pioneer Bible Translators. No amount is too small—ten dollars a month would be a significant help.

Just a year ago...

One year ago, we were traveling home from a week and a half of training with Pioneer Bible Translators. Now, we have just finished working on the other side of the table. June 7-12 PBT hosted about 175 people (recruits, students, and family member) for the Pioneer Mission Institute. Josi wasn't able to participate as she had wished—she was down with bronchitis. Richard, on the other hand, worked with the children's program and ran the computers (go figure!) for the two chapels that occurred each day.

The children's program (primary and middle grades) included a video adventure each day that highlighted the Ten Commandments. After each video, Moses (Caleb Sellers) and Aaron (Richard) came into the classroom to question the kids about the adventure they viewed. It was quite enjoyable.

Most of Richard's day was filled with keeping up with the many presentations that happened during each day's chapel sessions. There were announcement slides, worship slides, slides to go along with skits, and slide shows to go along with presentations by the various mission fields. Overall, everything went pretty smoothly.

The following week Josi worked with the Partnership Development Workshop and substituted for her boss, Marsha one day. We both participated in a panel discussion on the challenges of dealing with mission committees across various denominations.

We enjoyed a special evening together with many of the students and several of the missionaries who shared stories of their time on the field. Some kept you on the edge of the seat while others kept you on the verge of falling on the floor laughing.

We both look forward to working on PMI again next year. We're already figuring out how we can interact more with the students and prospective missionaries that attend PMI.

What's coming up?

As you receive this, we are on our way to the North American Christian Convention, held in Louisville, KY. We'll be helping to represent PBT during the convention June 30 thru July 3. We are also looking forward to connecting with some of our ministry partners who will also be attending the convention.

On the way there, and back, we will be staying at the home of some new friends in Memphis. We'll also be spending Saturday night and Sunday before the convention with friends in Erlanger, KY. We look forward to going to church with them!

Current Projects

Josi is hard at work organizing the first of two banquets to be held this fall. The past two years PBT has held an annual banquet in Dallas to share the work and vision of Bible translation. This year, for the first time, two banquets are being held, one in Fort Worth and a second banquet in Dallas two weeks later. The goal is to spread the word of PBT's ministry to a wider range of churches and become a familiar name.

Josi is working on a banquet in Phoenix in the spring of 2010. She will be travelling to Phoenix a couple of times this year to finish negotiating the site and get the ball rolling with the hosting church, Cactus Christian Fellowship.

Richard is field testing new netbooks and nettop PCs for distribution in the office and for missionaries in the field. He's still evaluating two Asus Eee PC boxes that have replaced desktop computers in the office and is presently analyzing an MSI Wind netbook for use both in the office and on the road. So far, they have been working well.

Richard is also testing Windows 7 as a suitable replacement for Windows XP. He's been using it without difficulty since January both at home and at work.

A send-off...

In late May, PBT sent off several missionaries to fields, adding to the teams already there and beginning new fields. It's both sad and exciting at the same time to say goodbye to some friends as they leave to do God's calling. We look forward to hearing their stories during future PMI sessions.

As we send these off, we are excited to have new recruits coming in to the International Service Center here in Dallas. Over the last couple of months, several families have moved here to take up work at the ISC or to prepare for language classes at the Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics. We are excited to have new friends and coworkers!

What's happening in Bible Translation?

The work we do in Dallas provides some of the support needed for PBT missionaries to work in fields across the globe. Without Richard's computer support, communications between missionaries can fail. Without Josi's work on projects like the banquets, churches won't know to support the work of Pioneer Bible Translators. The prayer and financial support would not be there for the mission fields.

God is moving in the world today. His Word is reaching people and transforming their lives. Please understand that because of security concerns for our friends in the field, we cannot share all of the details here. God knows them all—pray for them as you read of the work He has done in the past year:

Missionary Family 1 (West Africa): During this year, we sent Exodus to the publisher and completed the translation of Psalms 1-62. We also published 16,500 copies of 13 different titles—Matthew, Genesis, Jonah and a book on the Plan of God.

Missionary Family 2 (West Africa): We rebuilt our house that was destroyed by a fire. In addition, we started a Bible study with 30 men in three villages and completed a rough draft of Ruth.

Missionary Family 3: We have just left for North Africa.

Missionary Family 4 (Papua New Guinea): We continue in our revision of the New Testament. 18% is revised and another 10% has been checked. We published Acts and revised half of Revelation.

Missionary family 5: Completed the translation of Psalms 75-150, Psalms 1-74 needs to go through consultation check, completed exegetical check of Joshua. First draft of 1 and 2 Chronicles, Leviticus complete. Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts were published. Genesis-Deuteronomy ready for publication. Testimony comic completed for children.

We will share more of these with you next time. There is so much more! We are excited to be working to fulfill the Great Commission. We look forward to the completion of Christ's mandate for all the people of the world.

We challenge you to share in the blessings this work brings. Stand beside us as we work as fishers of men!

In Christ's Service



Prayer and Praises

- Pray for wisdom, finances and discernment as we plan our next Partnership Development trip in the Fall. We are making initial plans to visit churches and partners in Ohio, Missouri, Kentucky, Nebraska, Kansas, and Tennessee.
- Keep Ed and Amy Carter in your prayers as they continue to deal with Amy's health.
- Our minister, Rusty Howard, is on Sabbatical leave. Keep him and his wife, Carol, covered in prayer. Also keep Southwest Christian Church's leadership in prayer during this time.
- Keep Josi in prayer as she travels and makes preparation for the PBT banquets in Fort Worth and Phoenix. Also keep Matt in prayer as he makes preparations for the banquet in Dallas.
- Continue to pray for God's work through PBT in East Africa, West Africa, North Eurasia, Ukraine, South Asia, Southeast Asia, Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Rim.
- Pray for the fifteen interns who are now in East Africa, West Africa, and Papua New Guinea.
- Pray for the many students who are seeking God's will for their lives following the PMI training in June.
- Pray for the families who are now preparing to depart for their mission fields. Some are heading directly to various locations while others are heading to Canada or France for language training.
- Continue to lift us up in prayer that God lead us to new financial partners who will stand beside us in God's work.
- Continue to pray for our friend Walter who has finished his first round of chemo. His doctors are looking at other alternatives for treatment and he is in a lot of pain.