



MUSTARD SEED DISCIPLESHIP VOCATIONAL PROGRAM

ACTION International Ministries, Philippines

January #1, 2011

Prayer Update: January 29, 2011

Dear praying friend...

We are definitely in our cold season now!! The last few weeks have been nice in many ways as the temp is definitely cooler, but not nice as every day we have had wind. Tonight as I write, the rain is falling. I have two blankets on my bed and often wear a sweater around the house.

I has been a while since my last note to you. Here are our updates and items for PRAISE and PRAYER. I thank you for being in prayer for all of us here at Mustard Seed.

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU:

It was a very busy Christmas break but a good one. The first week I was busy getting gifts for traffic enforcers, our suppliers at the market, post office, bank and the many other people and businesses that are involved with Mustard Seed. Though always simple, they are always appreciated. With each gift I hand out a Christmas tract about the real story of Christmas. It is fun for me but also by the end of the day I am tired!

This year I was host for the annual Missionary Christmas Day get together. There were 15 of us gathered for good food, good fellowship, a devotion for Christmas, and presents. We were together for over 6 hours rejoicing and giving thanks to God for sending His Son.

The second week was much quieter. I was even able to finish a quilt top.

New Years Eve was quiet for us as well. We gathered in the evening for snacks and fireworks. Being early our celebration, we were able to be in bed long before midnight. My kitties were all glad that I was home early!

Our students all returned rested and ready for the BIG PUSH to graduation.

NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW ILLNESS:

It has been a long time since I was last really sick so I guess it was time for me to get something. And I did. The first week back some germ began its assault on my respiratory system hitting my sinuses, throat, ears especially my right one, and head. I had a very bad ear infection, lots of pain and lots of tears. The last four weeks I have met with an ENT dealing with the after effects of the ear and throat infections. I lost a good part of my hearing in the right ear due to build up of fluid and junk in the inner ear. Before today's visit with the doctor I was facing a procedure to drain the fluid from the ear. I was not looking forward to this at all. Last Sat I began the fourth round of meds. Today the doctor saw great improvement in my ear. So the procedure was cancelled. Hurray! So I am continuing one med and the ear drops for another two weeks. Then I have another visit with the ENT.

GRADUATION FAST APPROACHING:

Yes, our graduation is fast approaching. February 19 is the day. The girls are working hard to finish their work to be ready for the ceremony. One more evaluation week is coming and we do pray that all 10 girls will finish and finish well.

FURLOUGH PLANS ARE COMING TOGETHER WELL:

Here are the first dates that have been scheduled for furlough visits. More will be posted as they are confirmed. If you would like to schedule a visit (which I would love!!) you can contact me by email.

- March 19: arrive Vancouver Airport, PAL Air, 12:05 pm.
- March 27: Nicola Valley E Free Church, Merrit, BC
- March 28 to April 1: ACTION Office – Calgary; Red Deer, Three Hills, and Lacombe, Alberta
- April 3: Kamloops E Free Church, Kamloops, BC
- April 10: Cariboo Community Church, Williams Lake, BC
- April 17: Available for visit
- April 24: Easter Sunday, Kamloops
- April 26 – 28: ACTION Office- Mountlake Terrace, Wash; and other visits in US
- April 29 to May 1: MISSIONS Conference, Calvin Presbyterian Church, Abbotsford, BC. – conference speaker on Friday and Sunday
- May 8: North Burnaby Baptist Church, Burnaby, BC
- May 15: St. Giles Presbyterian Church, Prince George, BC
- May 22: E Free Church of Smithers, Smithers, BC
- June 12: Goodlow E Free Church, Goodlow BC
- AUGUST 6: LEAVE FOR MANILA

Yes it is a busy schedule and I would appreciate your prayers as I travel. And also yes, I would love to visit with you, share at a Bible study or small group, or at your church. Please feel to contact me before I leave here or when I am home.

Thank you for your continued prayers for me and for the ministry of Mustard Seed.

Blessings,

Barbara Burchert
Program Director

PRAISE:

1. Graduation Day is almost here!
2. That the diagnosis from the doctor was good news.
3. Today 36 young men graduated from the Working Hands program here on campus. 439 guests and lots of praises to the LORD!
4. Furlough plans coming together.

PRAYER:

1. Evaluation Week: Feb 7 – 11; that the girls will do well
2. Graduation Day: Feb 19
3. Post mortem for Batch 5 with staff before I leave, getting ready for recruitment for batch 6, and plans for batch 6, beginning last week of September 2011
4. Preparations for furlough
5. Safe travels back to Canada, and a good furlough.

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