

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Well, it'll take more than a fire, two court orders, a potential felony charge, cancelation of our electric contract, attacks on the ownership of our current church building, continued struggles with Kisilman over the RPTC and a three hour fight with the records department to keep us down!! God is good and that is a fact we hang on to. His will be done, His KINGDOM COME!

Right after the fire on Wednesday we received a court order concerning the Esther LLC, our sawmills, land. As many of you may remember, we bought the land (or so we thought) in 2005. But the Recorders office has been contesting our right to it ever since and it has been a long drawn out fight. We hope to come to some decision soon. So I got the court order with mixed feelings, sinking dread and rising hope. Dread that once again we were in the middle of contesting something we have every right to, and hope that soon it may be over.

Denis and Pasha, friends from Krasnoyarsk, had loaded up a whole car load of hand tools, shovels, axes, hammers, crow bars, etc, and had come north to be with us in this tragedy. So they also volunteered to take me up to Boguchany for my court hearing on Friday before heading back to Krasnoyarsk.

As it turned out the whole thing was a non-issue. One government organ was handing over our file to another and they needed a court order to do so. The court had ordered us to arrive simply to give testimony to the current status of the issue! Mind numbing monotony!

We had another court order show up at the same time as Esther's. An order to appear before the court to represent the church in an accounting case. The Russian government had changed the forms they use for non-profits to submit their tax statements, except they hadn't told anyone about it. Now they are leveling fines and court orders against the unfortunate. So Zhenya went and represented us in court.

We also narrowly escaped having a felony case filed against us by the fire department. We had stated that we thought the fire was due to a wood stove. As it turns out, if the loss in any fire is more than \$8,000 then the fire department has to file a felony charge against the liable parties, for negligence. This seems absurd, that no property but ours was lost and we would still be charged with a felony for negligence, but it is true. At the last minute, however, before the reports were filed, the local fire marshall, a friend of ours, extracted the report and wrote down his opinion that the fire was due to electrical problems, the one exception where no one pursues charges. Praise the Lord!!

The electric company found some problems with our electric contract at Esther and have shut our power off. This is not so bad since we have not been doing anything there as far as lumber production since August of 2009. But we are planning on starting a sawdust crete block production there, so please pray that we can get things in order

there soon, so we can get the lights turned back on and start our sawdust crete block production.

About sawdust crete, we are planning on building blocks made out of this material and rebuild the garage and barns and add a few buildings while we're at it. We have never built using sawdust crete but it seems to be the cheapest material we can come up with, about six times cheaper than building with building timbers (cants) which is considered the cheapest method here. Please pray that God would help us in implementing these witty inventions.

We also talked to the current owner of the current church property. We paid a down payment on this property back in 2003, she had a court order that would give her the right to sell the property in Nov. 2009. Well, she is just now getting her documents and is demanding that we pay about 20 times what we had originally agreed to pay. Of course we will not agree to that but we have also done substantial improvements to this property and solicit your prayers in navigating this situation.

Kisilman is back to talking to us about the RPTC building. His newest idea is that we rent the whole building from him until he has the docs in order. He wanted us to pay \$1000 a month for this privilege, plus utilities. Of course I turned him down, after which he barred us from using the conference hall for our church meetings, which we had been planning on doing after the conference in early January.

Now he wants to let us have factual control of the building, let us pay for all the utilities, allow us to sub rent to anyone, but he will maintain control over he 1st floor far end, about 1100 sq. ft, which just happens to include the largest current renter. Please pray that God would give me wisdom in dealing with this man. Pray also for his soul, that he would seek God.

Other than all that, things are going fairly well, or at least could be going worse! We finally got Tirzah's birth certificate, praise the Lord. I spent about three hours yesterday at the train station where the records of births, marriages and deaths are made, arguing, pleading, cajoling, threatening, coaxing and bluntly forcing my way through the corridors of registration power, climbing the hierarchical ladder of authority in the records department.

At first they didn't want to give me a birth certificate because "you should register the birth at the US consulate." I tried to explain that I DID want to register at the US consulate but, the US consulate required a birth certificate for that. They balked at that, but seemed to accept it after a lot of convincing.

Then they refused to write in the name Tirzah because it was such an "impossible and unruly name." I again took to explain to them that it was a wonderful name, full of ancient meaning and poetic undertones, and overcame. Then when we got to the patronymic, all hell broke loose.

We had wanted our daughter to be named Tirzah Joy Walker, but Russians don't do middle names, they do patronymics. They were outraged that I had the audacity to want to name my daughter by the American standards (first and second names). I pointed out the conspicuous fact that we were Americans and she was an American and she had a good chance of living in the future in the US. They seemed to see some logic in this but the gears of bureaucracy in the records department are not used to doing things differently. So we called here and drove there and called and clawed and fought, and finally I got my daughter recorded as Tirzah Joy.

The REAL problem started when she (the recorder) started to record our information, and balked at the fact that our marriage license was signed in a church! She was incredulous that we had not been married in a ZAKS (the Russian department for marrying citizens) and refused to register our baby without either an official testimony from a ZAKS or a blood test showing me as the father. I balked at this and we began the long process of fighting, calling, coercing, begging, etc, all over again.

Finally someone called from Krasnoyarsk to confirm that, as improbable as it seemed, Americans, nonetheless, did get legal marriages done in church, and that the recorder should register us. To make a long story shorter, we finally got our birth certificate and will be heading to Moscow on the 4th to register our baby with the US embassy, and apply for a passport.

So next week we'll be off to Moscow. We decided to go now because a businessmen friend of mine is going to Singapore for three days to start some partnership and has asked me to travel with him as his translator. We'll be flying through Moscow any way, so combining the two things will considerably lessen the expense of the trip. Praise the Lord for His provision in many wonderful and strange ways.

Rebecca and I are also contemplating a spring visit to the States. We were planning on coming in June but with all the projects happening this summer, and now the need to rebuild so much, I can not afford to be gone during the summer. So we are planning on coming to the US in late March and being there till the last part of May. We hope to do a missions tour, and visit our supporters as well as raise support for the orphanage project and other projects going on this summer. Please pray for these plans. If you think your church would be interested in having us come through and present the mission, please contact me at justus1212@gmail.com.

Thank you all for your prayers and kind words after the fire. It has been a blessing. We will not be daunted by this, nor will we let it set us back in moving forward with the plans for this summer. Please pray that this would be so!!!

INJ,
Justus, Rebecca and Tirzah (Joy) Walker