

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Well things have been hectic! I think that is the understatement of the year!!

After the fire we made a few decisions that have really affected our lives. First of all we decided to not come back to the US this summer, as we had hoped. We decided to come back early this spring. This decision came out of the fact that we have so much work to do this summer that I can not justify being gone for any long period of time during the summer. So we decided to come home this spring to raise support for all the projects this summer. What are those projects? They are, as follows

- 1). Build the orphanage. We got our foundation poured and materials stock piled last summer. This summer we hope to frame up and get the whole building enclosed and heat hooked up, so that any other work can be done in the colder months. There will be two teams coming this June to help with the construction.
- 2). Rebuild the garage, barn, storage facilities that burned down. We hope to rebuild considerably larger than what we had since our needs for floor space are growing. The rehab center is working towards financial independence and so this garage barn complex will need to facilitate at least two vehicles as well as at least six cows.
- 3). Bible College Building. The NEW date for property transfer is mid June, 2010. Do I feel led by the nose? YES! What exactly can I do about it...Not much. Pray. Please pray. As things stand, We have EVERYTHING we need to go ahead with the bible school building renovations. I intend to have the RPTC fully functional by Nov 1. We are recruiting students.
- 4). New Rehab center program in Takoochet. In July of this summer we will be sending a small team (three men) down to Takoochet to occupy the building we have there and open small rehab program, no more than six men. This rehab program will serve as our platform for launching a church there sometime in 2011.
- 5). Rebecca and I hope to get some kind of living accommodations for ourselves figured out so we don't have to live in a rehab center or Bible college or whatever. I REALLY have no idea of how this will come about, but I it is important, especially since children are now part of the picture (ok, child, but it WILL be children....soon...probably!!)

So as the plan stands, we'll be leaving for the US on March 17th.

After the fire in January, a business friend of mine offered me a job of translating. He is opening some new ventures and wanted my help translating with new partners. I took the job which provided a way for Rebecca and Tirzah and I to travel to Moscow to get our baby registered with the US Embassy. From Moscow Rebecca and Tirzah flew back to Krasnoyarsk and I went to Singapore to translate. I spent four days in Singapore translating non stop. Meetings would start in the morning at about eight and would go till

late at night, often past midnight. We did get to spend one evening on the beach so that was nice!!

On our way back from Singapore, we flew through China and I got to visit Peking. We were only there for about eight hours but we got to see some museums and our Chinese hosts treated us to some amazing Chinese food! I kept everyone entertained with my clumsy attempts at using chopsticks! I then made a complete fool of myself when I asked for a fork. I think the proprietress was actually very embarrassed at not having the utensil! I then asked if they had coffee!! Denis, the friend I was working for, explained that it is very rare to get coffee in a Chinese dinner. But then our hostess showed up with some weak coffee brewed in a teapot and set on a candle lit teapot heater!! Wonders never cease!!

We visited a Buddhist monastery/ temple complex as part of our tour. I was surprised at the amount of people there, kneeling before the Buddhas and burning incense, chanting the chants taught by the Lamas. The temples were impressive, the aura of spiritualism intense. I was struck with the impression that any one can build buildings, say chants and prayers, make a religious act out of any thought system, good or bad. The religious trappings of the lost are not so different from so much of our own religious trappings, they have gongs, we use guitars, they have amazing reverberating temples, we have thousands of dollars invested into sound systems. But it is all meaningless, empty, delusional and utterly useless unless you meet with the Living God, unless that encounter changes Monday through Saturday more than it changes Sunday. The change in the life of the believer, coming in line with God's vision for us is what counts. That is the Kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven.

I got back to Krasnoyarsk on Friday the twelfth, at about 2 am, and was gone that afternoon, headed for a church in Prokopensk, a city west of Krasnoyarsk on the trans Siberian. They had been asking me to come and do a mini-conference for some time. The pastor there and his wife had adopted two small boys this December, partially due to their hearing the testimony of my family's life in Russia and subsequent adoption. God is good. I spent all Saturday and Sunday there teaching. Sunday evening I headed back to Krasnoyarsk on the train.

In Singapore and then again in Prokopensk I had several asthma like attacks. I would get so locked up I couldn't breath at all without my inhaler. In Prokopensk especially while I was preaching, I would feel weak and short-winded. I called ahead to Krasnoyarsk from the train and asked some of my friends to get me an appointment with a lung specialist in Krasnoyarsk for Monday. I normally am very reticent to see a doctor but the frequency and severity of my breathing problem was getting rather frightening.

So, I arrived in Krasnoyarsk on Monday the 15th and went straight to the hospital. This turned into a three day ordeal of x-rays, blood tests and frowning doctors who berated me for not seeking treatment earlier (and then it is still some how amazing why I don't like doctors visits that much!!). As it turns out I had an acute case of pneumonia. The

doctors thought it had been festering for some time, as long back as late October. So they ordered me to a whole line up of meds and ten days bed rest!! They had WANTED to keep me in the hospital for ten days but I was NOT up for that.

So, finally, Rebecca and I and Tirzah headed home on Wednesday the 17th. I stayed in bed pretty much all the way through till Thursday the 25th, except for the Sunday service and to do several Bible studies with the rehab guys. Rebecca was a very good nurse, knowing from experience that the only way to keep me in bed was to keep my mind occupied, she read several books to me! I have to admit that it was nice!!

In Oseenavy, Zhenya has taken over the block making effort. An organization in the town of Tiyozhnee donated 5 ton of cement and 6 ton of gravel, so they are busy making blocks, and praying that God would continue to supply what we need for the upcoming construction projects this year. Two of the men in the rehab program are seriously pursuing entering the RPTC this winter. God is good.

On Thursday I headed to Krasnoyarsk, leaving Rebecca and the baby home this time. We had just gotten word that our new baby passport had arrived at the DHL office in Krasnoyarsk. So I went to Krasnoyarsk for several reasons. One was to apply for exit visas for all of us, the second was to look for a car, and the third was to preach at the head KCLC church.

So, I ended up being in Krasnoyarsk till Tuesday. I found a couple of cars that look good. I got our exit visas applied for. Had a visit with my doctor who said that my pneumonia was past but that I still should "take it easy." Supposedly my blood tests were showing that I have some constant allergic reaction to something, possibly resident parasites. Scary stuff. I'm just glad I can breath!!

We'll probably be leaving the village on the 14th so we have enough time to pick up the car, pick up our exit visas and get on our flight for Moscow late on the 16th.

In the remaining week and a half that we have left here in OM I am trying to get done everything that needs getting done before we leave for two months. This includes, but is not limited to...

1. Negotiating the current church building land deal with the current owner. I we can not come to an agreement, setting up an evacuation plan and relocation plan.
2. Come to some understanding with the owner of the RPTC building, and some commitment legally ratified that "binds" him to handing the building over to us by this summer.
3. Set up a work schedule for the rehab guys for our agricultural endeavors this summer. None of the leadership in the rehab have ever done any gardening. This was painfully obvious this year when their attempts at growing food on our garden plot failed miserably last summer. The difficulties of this winter have been compounded due to an

empty root cellar. This, I have explained to the leaders of the rehab program, must not happen again. As the economic crisis here becomes more acute, being self sufficient at least as far as basic food stuffs is concerned is imperative.

So we are keeping busy. To be honest I feel a little overwhelmed. Please pray that all things would come together for those who love Him here, that God would give us the health and stamina needed to get the projects done, and that I would have the clarity of mind needed to get everything properly organized!!

A special thanks to all of you who donated towards the new van. Having a vehicle is such a huge need, thank you for helping fill it!!

Thank you all for praying with us and looking for the Kingdom to come, here in Siberia, and elsewhere!!

INJ,  
Justus, Rebecca and Tirzah!!