

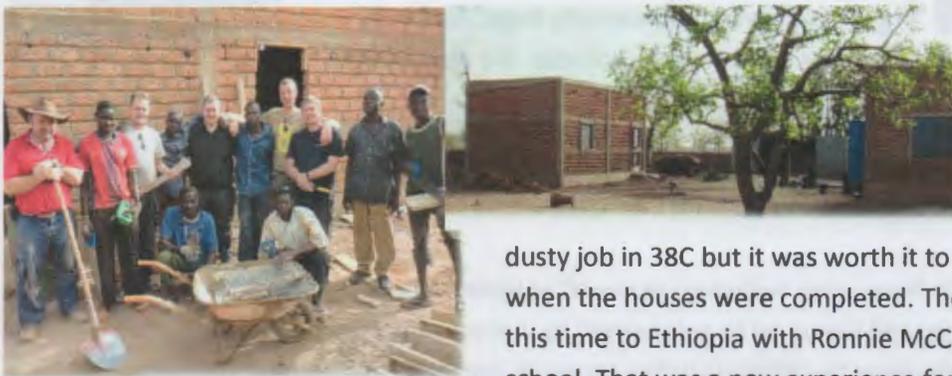
McCready News

Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing..... For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations. Psalm 100

Dear friends,

December 2012

As the year draws to a close it is time to wish you a Happy Christmas again. One year closer to our Lord's return! What a day that will be when our Jesus we will see. We praise the Lord that over this past year a number of tribal groups around the world heard the gospel in their own language for the first time and we now have many new brothers and sisters in Christ. However, many, many more are still waiting to hear. Who will tell them? And how will they hear without a preacher? This is the reason we are involved in NTM Summit. Our desire is to expose young, and not so young people, to the needs of those who have not had the privilege of being born in a land where they can hear 'Gods talk'. **Would you pray about joining us on a team next summer to the Philippines in July or Papua New Guinea in August to see for yourself the great need?**



This year we have travelled many miles. In February Norman and four tradesmen flew to Burkina Faso, West Africa to help build three small houses at a Bible school for the Fulani people. It was a hot,

dusty job in 38C but it was worth it to see the joy on the students faces when the houses were completed. Then, in April, Norman took off again – this time to Ethiopia with Ronnie McCracken to help build a Christian school. That was a new experience for him and he was challenged by the

great need of that land. He felt he had stepped back in history. The people hauled the bricks to him by horse and cart and all the cement was mixed by hand. One of the saddest things was seeing so many kids living on the streets scavenging and begging for food with on one to protect, love or care for them.

In June, Angela and Caleb went back home to Hoskins, PNG, with 9 others. After two days of travel the team arrived and it was straight into work preparing the evening meal for the 100 missionaries and kids who were attending the annual field conference. They also organised the children's programme. The missionaries appreciated getting their meals cooked and their children taken care of as they don't have the luxury of those things in the jungle.



One of the highlights for Caleb and I was to work again with Flavia who had been our house help and dear friend for ten years when we lived in PNG. She was like a second mama to Caleb and often looked after him while I taught in school. She has trusted the Lord as her Saviour since we left PNG and it was so wonderful to hear her testimony and see her love for the Lord. We were able to visit her village and meet her husband Peter and their 6 children. For a long time Peter and the children persecuted Flavia because of her faith but God has answered prayer and now every Saturday and Sunday, Bosco, a local believer, is teaching them God's word in



their own home. Please pray that the Lord will open their eyes to the truths of the gospel and save their souls.

Our second week in PNG was spent in the village of Lele in the Mengen tribe where we worked on Simon and Annika Flanagan's house. We had visited Lele as a family 12 years ago. The missionary families were just starting to learn the language then. Today there is a church with over 60 believers!



What a change God has made in their lives. It was brilliant to go to church on Sunday and listen to their testimonies. Many face opposition and persecution because they have left the ancestral ways but their joy and desire to follow the Lord is so evident. They only have a few portions of God's word translated in their language but they read it avidly and take it to heart. It made us as a team ashamed that we treat God's word with so much familiarity and do not get excited about the truths that are in it.



In July we took off again with another team to the Philippines. God richly blessed our team and we had great times of fellowship and fun with all the missionaries we met. Everyone was challenged by what they saw and heard in the tribe, at the guest house in Puerto Princesa and finally in the slums in Manila. One of the saddest things we saw was this little boy Lester. He has macrodactyly and his fingers are growing abnormally huge. His family



have barely enough money to feed themselves never mind get medical help. We are trying to figure out a way to get him treatment.

August was another special month as our son, Matthew, flew home from Australia for three weeks. After two and a half years away it was so good to see him again. He is now back in Perth where he does electrical work on ships that come into port.

It was also good to welcome Andrew back home after two years at our NTM bible school in England. He is now working, doing a part time catering course, and saving up to get married to Joanna, his German girlfriend, whom he met at Bible school. Joanna is presently doing the Biblical studies course at North Cotes. She has been over twice to stay with us and we are very happy indeed to welcome her into our family. Rebekah is still working in Liverpool and she needs our prayers as in June she was unexpectedly promoted to a ward manager's job. It is an extremely stressful and demanding job. She is also completing her degree this year so she has a lot on her plate. Caleb is in his last year of apprenticeship as a chef. He has a very busy social life and is a great recruiter for our summit trips.

Psalm 46 v 1 says 'God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble. In these days of recession and depression it is great to have our trust in Him. What a privilege it is to know and serve Him. Thank you so much for your love and prayers for us.

Norman & Angela



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