



WORLD WIDE NEW TESTAMENT BAPTIST MISSIONS

“And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.” - 2 Timothy 2:2

Osborn - July Newsletter

To Our Dear Friends & Supporters,

“Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.” – Jeremiah 33:3

“Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,” – Ephesians 3:20

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**Establishing and
Equipping Local
Churches through
National Pastors**

These verses are the only way we can explain what has taken place in our lives these past two months! **Please take the time to read** how God’s perfect plan did and continues to play out in our lives. I believe you will be blessed and encouraged! After all, you are the human agents God used to provide for much of what has happened; through your prayers, giving, sacrifices, and encouragement.

The month of May began with our final days of deputation and saying good-bye to friends & family up north. This was a difficult task after having been so blessed to see them frequently over that past few years. During this time, we were also making plans for our move to Liberia, West Africa. Trying to collect items that could be used for ministry (*A huge thank you from Brenda for those participating in her request for S.S. materials. The response was over-whelming!*); finding a way to ship supplies; finding good prices on airline tickets; and praying God would provide us with a good vehicle that could handle the difficult roads of Liberia.

We were about to leave Iowa and return home to Florida when one of our dear pastor friends in Liberia, **Pastor Kerdoe Dwanyen**, called and gave us the name of a Liberian in Boston (the son of a church member), who could help us with shipping. I called this man and asked where they ship from? He said, *“From Boston and from Iowa.”* I said, *“Iowa? Where in the world do you ship from in Iowa?”* He said, *“Muscatine, Iowa.”* I

quickly replied, *“I am practically in Muscatine and have a brother that works in Muscatine!”* Well, that delayed our trip home by two days as we rushed to buy tools for ministry, house wares, and many other things we could buy to ship through them. **Note:** *when we were purchasing supplies, I told the manager at the Walmart we were missionaries going to West Africa and all these purchases were for our ministry. She gave us a \$50 gift card toward our purchase! At Home Depot, they gave us a 5% discount.* These were just some added blessings in the midst of a huge blessing! Although we returned home, we continued to have supplies mailed to my brother’s house and he has taken them to the storage where supplies are held until they have enough to ship a container. **Thank you, Joe & Marge Osborn!**

Upon our return home, we were very concerned about the financial burden of shipping, flying, resident visas, import fees and setting up home in Liberia. *And oh, getting a vehicle to ship over also.* Our church, **Temple Baptist Church of Sarasota, FL** planned a commissioning service before our departure. On June 5, they held a special service for us and invited friends and family to come. It was a BLESSED event! My dear friend and mentor, **Dr. Arlo Elam**, preached the morning service and reminded everyone the command, need, and importance of being personally involved in missions!

[To my amazement, as we entered the church that Sunday morning, we saw two of my sisters, **Bertie Bemis & Cindy Brinson**, who flew in from Iowa to be part of the service! We had just seen them 3 weeks before! Needless to say, it was a surprise and blessing for us.]

Prior to this special service, our pastor, **Gene Krachenfels**, sent a letter to all of our supporting churches sharing our financial needs and that they would be receiving a special offering for us during the service. Well, the response to that letter and from our friends & churches can only be explained by the verses above! God truly did exceedingly above all that we could imagine, ask, or think! The amount that we received through our church and that came through our mission agency, **World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions**, was incredible! A God-sized gift for a God-size need! We were humbled, thankful, grateful, excited, amazed, and did I say humbled? by the love that was demonstrated to us, God's servants!

Because of these particular gifts, we were able to purchase our airline tickets, travel visas, medical exams, and all that we had purchased for the shipment to Liberia. Oh, and by the way, with the great sacrifice from our own church people and the gifts of others, we were able to purchase a **2006 Land Rover**, one of the choice vehicles for African transportation! We were not even looking for a Land Rover. It seemed beyond our ability. But nothing is beyond God's ability! – *Jer. 33:3; Eph. 3:20*

NOTE: The person that sold us the Land Rover also put us in contact with a lady in Tampa who does shipping. God is good indeed! We had a container come right to our home! With the 20' container I was able to load 10 boxes of my personal library books I had boxed for several years waiting to ship to Africa, along with 3 boxes of hymnals donated by our church, plus personal items! *And again, God provided for the shipping of the container!*

We are so grateful to missionary **Julie Malcom-Alexander** who is also planning to serve in Liberia. I met her at a conference several months ago, friended her on Facebook, and began to ask her for information. She provided us with resources that have proved invaluable to our preparation and presence in Liberia. She gave us contacts for shipping, for flight tickets, for temporary housing, and other vital information for our transition. Thank you, Julie!

Since our arrival in Liberia on June 21st, we have been blessed to preach at **Faith Baptist Church** in Tinker Village (*the church we started 3 years ago*, and to encourage our Bible college students. I will be preaching the next two Sundays before attending a Men's Leadership Conference outside of Monrovia.

We are excited to say that just yesterday God provided us with a home to rent! I prayed that it would have electricity and water for a shower & flushing the toilet. (*Meaning, a raised water reservoir that allows for gravity to fill the toilet tank and bring it through a shower head at a very slow rate. This was very much a God-size request!*) Well . . . Jer. 33:3, Eph. 3:20. A God-sized request got a God-sized answer! Not only does it have water, but it comes from the government system; meaning no tank and no bucket baths!!

So, we have been busy buying housing necessities like a bed, mattress, dresser, small oven, etc.

Please understand! All these things, and so much more, has been the direct result of **thousands of people praying** for us! It is certainly not a result of any great faith on my part. I have to admit that this whole process has been very stressful because of the enormity of the need, the amount of things needed done, and no idea how it would all come about. Words cannot begin to express our gratitude to all those who have prayed and given words of encouragement to us! You truly have no idea what that has meant to us. In my recent study on the church at Corinth, I believe one commentator said it well:

"Everyone agrees that Paul was a great Christian and a great missionary evangelist, but how much would Paul have accomplished alone? Friends like Aquila and Priscilla, Silas and Timothy, and the generous believers in Macedonia, made it possible for Paul to serve the Lord effectively. His Christian friends, new and old, encouraged him at a time when he needed it the most. "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" is the way Paul expressed it (Gal. 6:2). Humanly speaking, there would have been no church in Corinth were it not for the devotion and service of many different people."

To God be the glory for all He has done! But, we know that others have borne our burden with us through prayer, giving, calling, emailing, Facebook, and even crying with us! Now, we ask that you rejoice with us in the many miracles that we have witnessed and received. Our mission has just begun; we need many more miracles, many more prayers, and many more victories!

I am almost reluctant to share prayer requests when you have given so much; but I do not want to miss what God can do through the power of so many praying for us! *Please enjoy the pictures below!*

- ☞ Continued help through our transition
- ☞ Brenda – what an amazing wife God has given me!
- ☞ Wisdom in ministry
- ☞ Guidance in service
- ☞ Patience in adjusting
- ☞ Love in sharing
- ☞ Boldness in preaching
- ☞ Safe arrival of container from FL and also from IA
- ☞ Provisions for housing needs, import charges & custom fees (*We thought we had funds set aside for these things until we had to pay a whole years rent in advance! Ouch!*)

With Great Love and Appreciation,

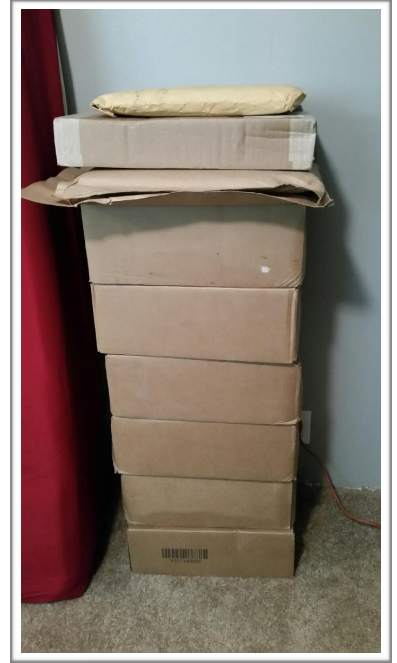
Rick & Brenda Osborn – Your missionaries IN West Africa



Tools and Battery Fans



Boxes of books & etc.



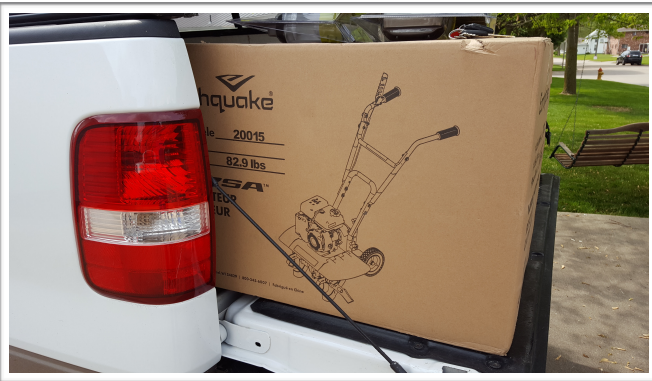
Boxes of A Beka S.S. materials made possible by the generous gifts of churches & individuals



Iowa shipment ready to go!



Couldn't have done it without the help of two very special friends: Jay Workman, church planter; and Tony Ledbetter, missionary to Haiti! Thanks, guys!



Maybe the most important tool (rototiller)



Had to get a flatbed to load the Land Rover into the container... as you can see, very tight fit!