



July 27, 2009

Dear friends and family,

Thank you for your prayers and love. God is good, and greatly to be praised. At the same time, there are many things that concern us, and we ask you to stand with us in prayer.

In March, I asked for prayer for our church camp. We had a good 3 days with the kids and staff. Thanks for your prayers. We tried a new format with the schedule, and we got good feedback from that. We saw kids learning more about their walk with the Lord. Thanks for your prayers.

Daryl and I are in the midst of teaching automotive mechanics and sewing (Working Hands and Mustard Seed). I just finished my 2nd quarter, and Daryl his first. We've both seen students go, and that is sad. In March, 2 of my students left, due to family pressures. They were doing well in the classroom, and it was sad to see them give up. J, who left because of pregnancy, delivered a healthy baby girl about a month ago. All of us in the sewing room made baby clothes for her, and took them to her house. Her baby is so sweet, yet she and her mom have a hard road ahead of them, with J being an undereducated teenage mom, and her family living in poverty. Pray for J and her baby, that they will honor the Lord with their lives.

At the end of Mustard Seed's 2nd quarter, we let a fourth student go. She has a learning disability, which we were trying to help her with, but she didn't really want help, and became less and less eager to learn. Her sour attitude was drain on all of us, and we realized that she wasn't benefiting from the program. Now I'm down to 6 students, and I pray that the rest of the girls will finish well.

I've continued to visit CIW, and it was very rewarding to give C a set of New Testament tapes in Tagalog, since she can't read. She was thrilled to receive them, and has been listening to them. Another prisoner is also borrowing them from her. She has a problem with batteries costing a lot for her cassette player. I plan to look into trying to get a solar powered player for her, or maybe a hand wound one. C told me recently that she is the inmate in charge of her room of about 60 women. She is in her 50's, and the younger ones come to her for advice. She's sort of their mom figure. I was excited to think that the Lord has placed this influential woman in my sphere of influence! The Lord is good!

Pray for Daryl and he continues to work on our church's governance policies. This has become more time consuming, as some people are against the change, and some have become personally offended. Pray that Daryl will have wisdom and endurance in this challenge.

We were very happy to hear last month that Candice has been accepted at Queens University in Kingston, Ontario. Justin was accepted into their Master's program for urban planning, but it took a couple more months for Candice to get her acceptance. She now has her fall schedule worked out, and will be in her 2nd year of her linguistics degree program. Justin is working this summer in a greenhouse. Candice has occasional jobs doing yard work. They will be moving 2 hours away to Kingston the end of August. Recently Candice helped in the VBS program at their church, and Justin is playing his guitar during worship time in the church service.

Hilary is busy working for Cannon Beach Conference Center as a waitress in the dining hall, and the snack bar. She also has a 2nd job at the candy store in town. She's saving money to move to Spokane in the fall, and attend community college. She was very happy to tell us of her acceptance. She plans to share an apartment in Spokane with a friend of hers from Bible School.

We found out in May that Tyler was struggling in Southern California. He has now been staying with us here in the Philippines for almost 2 months. He is wondering what the future holds for him. Please pray for him to make wise decisions and grow in his faith.

Pray for our shipment of 2 riding lawnmowers, books, computers, used clothes, and sewing supplies that we have sitting in the States. We've been getting tax exemptions from the government for these 2 crates, and it's taken a long time. We packed up the crates last winter, and had hoped to have them here long ago.

I was having chest pains recently, and had some tests done. I was very glad to find out that I have no heart disease, but my heart isn't as strong as it should be. I'm making cardio workouts a higher priority now. I also found out that fasting blood sugar is low, and exercise will also help that. I'm thankful for the wakeup call concerning my health.

On the lighter side, earlier this month, Tyler, Daryl, and I took a trip to Singapore! We found tickets for a little over \$100 a person, round trip! We stayed in a hostel in Chinatown, and walked all over the city. It was fun to see a new place, and become a bit more familiar with a different part of Asia. We also just had our 25th wedding anniversary. We celebrated by ordering in pizza! It's hard to realize that we've been married for so long!

One last item; my longtime friend, Doring, has been praying for a van for several years. She's been saving from her paycheck as my assistant at Mustard Seed, but that builds up very slowly. Last week, she and I were talking about praying, and I said that the Bible tells us that we have not because we ask not. I said that we need to ask our heavenly father for things, but also not to expect him to act like he's our servant and give us everything we ask for. Doring thought to herself that she has a really big thing that she's asking from the Lord. Later that day, Daryl told her and her husband, Dick, that a van has been donated to them! Doring started crying, and asked me if I remembered what I'd shared with her earlier. I'd forgotten, but when she reminded me, I was struck by the timing of our conversation. It was very clear to Doring that her heavenly father is blessing them with a van because she asked Him. James 1:17 tells us that every good thing comes from God. He is good.

Love, Sharon and Daryl Germaine

If you would like to give you can make checks payable to Action International Ministries, P. O. Box 398 Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-0398 or 3015 A 21st Street NE, Calgary, Alberta T2E 7T1, Canada. Note that your check is for support of the Germaines.