

VERSE OF THE SEASON: Prepare your work outside; get everything ready for yourself in the field and after that build your house. [Proverbs 24:27]

Spring 2019

I thank God for you continually, and I pray that this letter finds you well. Your support encourages us to continue in ministry, and helps us to to meet the need for missionaries to find refuge, rest, and to be together as a family. This is a work that you and I actively participate in! The last time I wrote to you, we were still constructing the 25th Anniversary House. We were able to complete this project with your support! This is exciting and significant because it means our capacity has increased to welcome another missionary family and then send them out refreshed and renewed. With the new house finished, we now have a total of 14 residential units, praise God!

After Siloam's first duplex was completed in 1994, due to the increased number of housing requests, we began to pray about what to do next. On December 24th of that year, I read my daily Proverb and verse 27 of that chapter said,

"Prepare without, Get everything together, and then afterwards, build your house."

There is wisdom in getting your resources together before building, and even more in making preparation before the resources come. May the Lord make our hearts ready!

-- President, Larry George

EXCERPT FROM INTERVIEW

OPERATIONS AND MARKETING

Michael Gay, Director

What are some reasons that missionaries come to Siloam? We have some missionaries that we wouldn't be able to share anything about, either because of the reason they are here, or because of their field. Earlier this year, we had a family here that had been evacuated from a South American country due to a coup (a revolution, basically). They literally had fighting going on all around them one day, and had to grab whatever they could carry in their arms, and leave the country. Their three teenagers were devastated since that country was pretty much all they had known. And... they can't go back - at least not for now. Since we maintain relationships with counselors in our area who specialize in cross-cultural counseling and transition, this family was here for counseling for the kids.

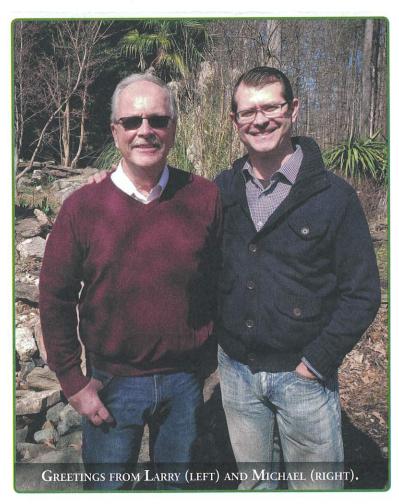
Are there any challenges that you foresee for Siloam? One of the biggest challenges over the next ten years is going to be reaching the next generation of younger people and their families as well as identifying and helping to overcome barriers that may prevent people from even being willing to join us in ministry. This might be people who are in their twenties now, who are in or will be in a position to really come alongside us in the work that we are doing for the Lord here at Siloam.

FLIP THIS

NEWSLETTER OVER

TO SEE THIS MINISTRY FROM A

MISSIONARY'S PERSPECTIVE



But you, be self-controlled in all things, bear hardship patiently, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

[1 TIMOTHY 4:5]



These are some of the amenities we offer and ways we have been able to support our brothers and sisters!

- GATED COMMUNITY -- closed at night and on Sunday
- DAD'S COUNTRY STORE -- free food pantry, regularly stocked
- Internet -- roughly 18mbps up/2.5mbps down
- Wreck Center -- recreational center with games
- Exercise Room -- padded floor, weights, punching bag, etc
- REV. STANLEY TREASURE CHEST -- free clothing center
- LIBRARY -- books and videos available to be checked out
- Mailboxes -- mail usually arrives by 2pm, packages left here
- Notary -- service provided by Joyce
- PLAYGROUNDS -- several located on the property for the kids
- Rental Car -- available on-site for missionaries to use
- Fully Furnished Units -- washer/dryer, furniture and more!

NEW DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE

eet Shane, our newest staff member! Henry, who has served as director of maintenance for the past 10 years, has passed the torch to Shane. Praise God that this ministry is still growing and that He is bringing skilled workers to be involved! If you and/or your church volunteer to join us on one of our projects, you will more than likely be working alongside him. When asked if he views what he does as ministry, this was his response:

When I took this job, Larry told me I am an in-house missionary. I recognize this as God's property. Everything belongs to God. I live to serve the Lord, and I am allowed to serve the missionaries here by taking care of this place so that they have a place to rest and recharge.



- MONTHLY MISSIONARY FELLOWSHIP
 A time set aside to get to know the families living at Siloam, to find out how ministry is going for them, and to better understand how we can
- Men's Prayer Meeting -- 8:00am Mon-Fri
 For the staff and any of the missionary men who
 would like to meet and collectively dedicate the
 day and their activities to the Lord

support them

- MONTHLY LUNCH AT BETTY'S
 A delicious meal, fellowship and encouragement once a month at Betty Wilder's house for missionary and staff women
- YOUTH BIBLE STUDY
 Rachel leads this Bible study for missionary kids to encourage them in their own relationship with the Lord. She alternates between high school age one week, and middle school age the next.



"ANNIVERSARY HOUSE"

his building project has taken two years to complete. So many people have labored with us so that we could finish it. From the plumbing to the gravel in the driveway, we know that the Lord provides for all of our needs. As we praise God for allowing us to enter our 27th year of ministry, we shift our eyes from what lies behind and look forward to Jesus' return and what lies ahead.

forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

EXCERPT FROM INTERVIEW

CAMP GLORY FARM AND WATSON'S PLACE

As a kid growing up in a mix of worlds, from "normal American life" to a "missionary kid's life," I had the opportunity to experience both worlds. I knew what it was like to be a Pharisee whose greatest desire was to obey and please God, yet they missed Jesus as He walked in their very midst. My passion is first for these missionaries' children to really understand their place and identity found in Jesus. My passion is for kids who haven't been an MK to recognize the same as well, but to help each to know that without Christ, life is completely meaningless. Regardless of their own personal background, God does have a specific purpose and place for their lives and is intimately acquainted with them (Ps. 139). The battle to destroy our youth seems to have become even greater.

What is the vision behind Camp Glory Farm?

Camp Glory Farm is a place where MKs and their families can allow the therapeutic aid of farming and farm animals to be a part of their healing process while they are here in the USA for a time of furlough. My goal is that the farm will allow an opportunity for MKs to work through various issues in a safe and healthy place. Siloam's desire is that missionaries can find a place of rest not only for the parents, but for the children as well. Our motto is, "Serve Local, Reach Global."

What is the vision behind Watson's Place?

Because our desire is to reach the world for Christ, we needed a place that would be most practical in order to fulfill this. Without sharing it with anyone, I prayed for 5 years that the Lord would give us this farm. I had never seen the little house that was on this land, but felt it was what the Lord wanted. In October 2018, the family that owned the 10-acre farm donated it to Siloam Missionary Homes. It was awesome to see God answer prayer. The plan for this farm is to have a place where we can reach all ages, primarily students, with the Gospel of Christ in a hands-on environment, free from the poison of a Godless society. Here we will have the privilege to receive all types of groups to come and learn about our farm and even aid in helping sponsor it. Once again, it is an opportunity to "Serve Local, Reach Global."





PHILIPIANS 3:13,14



How could CGF and Watson's Place impact the community, the church (local gathering), and the Church (global/body of Christ)? CGF will be primarily used to aid in the care of missionaries and their families living on location at Siloam. Watson's Place is located over on Sylvan Road (less than 5 miles from Siloam), and right up the road from a local Elementary School. This location will provide an opportunity for school age children to learn about Christ from a shepherd's view. Watson's Place will be more community driven while CGF will be more of a private opportunity for the families here on location.

What does your financial support system look like?

All the staff at Siloam are faith supported. This means that we are not paid unless funds come in from supporters. In this, we have to walk by faith and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7) because there have been many times that payday is here and the funds are not; however, the Lord has always provided at the right time. Our support is dependent upon individuals, churches, and groups.

What does your spiritual support system look like?

I personally have a variety of accountability partners who are able to help me in my personal walk with the Lord. I find it necessary and critical that everyone have at minimum 2-3 people to aid in this process. These individuals should be striving to walk with the Lord and be willing and able to call you out on your "junk," willing to pray with you through difficult times, and desire to aid you in the growth. I also have the support of a local church and other Biblical counselors as well.

What would you say to someone in order to encourage them to continue in the faith?

That God has not forgotten them, regardless of their place, situation, happiness, or pain. Deuteronomy 31:6, "Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you."

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RECIPE - HAM DELIGHTS

□ 2-3 pkgs slider rolls
□ 8oz. sandwich ham
□ 6oz. Swiss cheese
□ 1 stick melted butter
□ 1 med. onion
□ 1½ Tbsp. poppy
seeds
□ 1½ Tbsp. mustard
□ ½ tsp. Worcestershire
sauce
+ extra butter for rolls

Springtime is here and there will be weddings and other special occasions to celebrate. We just celebrated my Mom's 97th birthday and I served the following sandwiches. Several people wanted the recipe, so I decided to share it with all of you.

DIRECTIONS:

In a food processor put in the ham and Swiss cheese (chopped in small pieces), melted stick of butter, chopped onion, poppy seeds, mustard, Worcestershire sauce. Pulse or blend on low until mixed but still have small pieces of ham. Slice each package

of rolls to make two layers, without breaking rolls apart. On bottom half, spread the ham and cheese mixture, not too thick. On top half of rolls spread melted butter. Replace top of rolls back over the bottom half and cover with foil (may be frozen and baked later). Bake at 350 degrees 15 to 20 minutes until warm through. Serve warm and enjoy.

-- Missionary Pastoral Care, Betty Wilder

PASTORAL CARE

Did you know that there is a pastor on campus here at Siloam? Milton Wilder has been a pastor since 1962. He was a pastor for 37 years at a church in Guilford County, North Carolina before he and his wife, Betty, transitioned to provide pastoral care for the missionaries here.

"After I was in ministry for a while, my mother finally told me that she prayed that I would be a minister from the time that I was born. She didn't want to tell me earlier because she wanted me to make the decision and know that it was God calling me instead of me trying to please her or something. It really touched my heart to know that, and to hear her say that the Lord answered her prayer.

I really didn't accept the call to ministry until right before I entered the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. One night after going to a youth meeting I was helping out with, I turned into the driveway and said, "Okay, Lord, if that's what You want me to do, I'll do it." And from then on, that's the direction I pursued.

Throughout the years, I noticed there are things missionaries go through that they really can't write home about. Sometimes they need someone as a sounding board or a listening ear. The intensity of pastoral care here varies because this is such a transitory type of ministry. It just depends on who is here at any given time."

-- Missionary Pastoral Care, Milton Wilder

A MISSIONARY'S PERSPECTIVE

Immediately He called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went away to follow Him.

[Mark 1:20]

After that He went out and noticed a tax collector named Levi sitting in the tax booth, and He said to him, "Follow Me." And he left everything behind, and got up and began to follow Him.

[LUKE 5:27-28]

I was a police officer and patrolled my city for five years. I had participated in great mission trips over the years and had the opportunity to do some great things in the name of Jesus Christ. However, I hadn't fully given the Lord control over my daily life. I'm glad that He is so patient and that He extends so much grace to me. Toward the end of my career, the Lord exposed my hypocrisy and laid my heart bare. Jesus called James and John out of the boat, and Levi from the tax booth. How dare I believe that the Lord wasn't calling me, by name, from daily answering the call to serve my community into daily answering the call to follow Him?

I figured if I didn't leave immediately, I would either regret not having left, or I would regret not having left sooner. I prayed about it, and November 2^{nd} , 2018, I turned in my departmentally issued firearms, uniforms, badges, and access cards. Praise God for the call on my life to service, and the equipment to answer the call to ministry.

Family, friends, and co-workers were concerned and often asked what I would be doing with my life after resigning. I'd smile and respond, "Following the LORD as best as I can and learning what that looks like."

The details don't need to be clear. Logistical concerns such as, "where would I stay" or "with what money" were brushed aside as the LORD ministered to me through His Word:

Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; but I tell you, not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass in the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, how much more will He clothe you? You men of little faith!

[LUKE 12:27-28]

I emptied my 401k, googled missionary housing, and sent Joyce an email. Thank God this place exists. Siloam is like an oasis. I am able to focus more on ministry and spend more time with the LORD in this environment.

The Lord has given me a passion for sharing about the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and using my natural affinity toward technology and media to serve Him, and minister to my brothers and sisters who have answered the call to follow the Lord. From interviews and general ministry overviews to this newsletter you are reading, I will use what He was freely given me to freely give. The heart behind this work is found in Colossians 4:7 where Tychicus and Onesimus were sent to the church in Colossi so that the church would know the circumstances surrounding the ministry and that their hearts might be encouraged. I hope that after reading this, you have a better view of the circumstances surrounding Siloam in ministry and you are encouraged within your heart.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- preparing for the upcoming summer work projects and teams
- renovations to and the use of Watson's Place
- the potential to have greater reach locally and globally
- the complete health of the missionaries staying with us
- that we collectively run the race well
- that the Lord provide workers and resources for His work

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