

Newsletter 21



On the road again...

We are planning to visit you soon!



End of June we returned from visiting the Support Team in Germany. It was an encouraging couple of months, exhausting and uplifting at the same time. You know you are on the road too much though, if your kids are asking: "So, where are we sleeping tonight and who are the people we are staying with?"

We decided to focus on the ROOTS Ministry during the summer, as it is difficult to meet with people during this time of the year (holiday season) and as this is also one of the busiest times for an Outdoor Program.

However, in the Fall Tal is planning to start visiting you, our friends in Canada. As Christina has to do her final teaching practicum this coming semester and the kids have already been taken out of school for the Germany Trip, we decided, that at this time only Tal would be able to go on furlough. That is always a hard decision, because on one hand we all would love to see you and for you to be able to meet with all of us, but on the other hand that would mean to put off the furlough for another year and it has already been up to six years since you last saw us. Tal is going to call to arrange meetings soon. We will let you know the finalized dates and Meeting Places as soon as we have made arrangements for your area.

Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well.

Romans 12:4-6

Of course Tal also loves invitations to your home. And if you invite some interested friends, even better. 😊

Planned Travel Schedule:

September / October:

Manitoba and Saskatchewan

October / November:

British Columbia

January / February:

Alberta

Hopefully next year we also will be able to visit those who live in the US. Unfortunately our US Team is spread all over and that makes it very difficult and costly.

The hunger of this world ...

I do not know about you, but the pictures of the suffering people in the Horn of Africa haunt me.

I had been thinking and praying about the financial support for our work as it has been going down dramatically over the last months. In fact it has come to the point where we receive only half of our salary in order to cover the Ministry Expenses, so in a way we are financing the Ministry out of our salary.

I kept thinking: "How can we even ask our friends to give more or start giving in the face of the suffering we see on the news and the scary economic times?" And then it hit me: The people we are reaching out to are suffering a different kind of hunger – a spiritual and social devastation that is on the inside,

but no less real and no less fatal. And the pictures of the starving and lost people in Africa became a picture of the desperation many First Nations People are living with internally. They might smile on the outside, but it only masks the starvation of their souls.



I believe it was Jesus who reminded me that Satan is working in many ways and that Jesus' message

of hope is needed no matter the form of suffering. Times like this call for all of us to trust Jesus even more - *Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.* (Hebrews 10:23)

Hope ...

Just before leaving on Furlough we got some encouraging news that all of you so faithfully have been praying for in the last 10 years. Two girls from Penelakut, aged 14 and 15 have accepted Jesus into their lives!

Ronda and Julia had been spending a lot of time with Tal and Tim (colleague) both through the ROOTS School and Summer Programs. Last Easter they went to a Youth Retreat at the Capernwray Center on the neighbouring island and there decided to give their lives to Jesus. We are very thankful! It was unfortunate that we had to leave immediately after that and we have not been able to see them much during the summer, but we are



now trying to figure out the best way to disciple them. Unfortunately because of the history of abuse among First Nations, Tal and Tim cannot really spend time alone with them. This is where a fulltime female colleague would be very helpful.

I (Christina) will try to step in, but have a very busy fall ahead of me. Please pray for a solution. We are also planning to invite them to a Christian First Nations Youth Retreat (put on by Red Soul Rising, a division of NAIM, <http://www.redsoulrising.com>) in November so they can connect with other young First Nations Christians.

Please also pray with us about ...

- Us as a family as we often experience Satan's attacks in the form of discouragement and other trials
- Not giving up in the face of humanly insurmountable struggles on every front the people we love and serve are facing
- Letting Jesus' love through us and relying on Him to give us strength instead of trying to do it on our own

May Jesus richly bless you for your continuous prayers for the people we serve. Your prayers sustain us and motivate us to stay true to our calling. You are "Christ's body" to us.

*Tal and Christina
with Corbin and Connor.*

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