

Dear Friends,

It is a quiet, sunny morning in Kenya. I have been lingering a bit over a cup of coffee, reading our recent budget and finance records from CBM. It has become something of a conversation starter lately across the mission field to ask, "How is your support holding up during the current financial crisis?" As I scroll down through the list of donors, I have to admit that I am humbled to read how sacrificially many people are giving. Although we are in need of increased financial support, we are "holding our own", so to speak, with the assistance of so many individual and church donors. And for that we are extremely grateful.

As many of you know, we are about to head back to Canada for six months. We have never tried a six-month furlough before, and we're not sure how it will go. I expect it will be a total whirlwind much of the time. As well, we are going to be living in the Toronto area, something else we've never done. We will be returning to Canada in late July, and spending much of August in the Maritimes with our families. In September, Tim will be in the Maritimes, speaking to different churches and groups (Contact Linda Naves: lnaves@cbmin.org). The remainder of our time at home (until the end of December) we will be speaking to churches in other parts of Canada, including the Baptist Churches of Ontario and Quebec (Contact Ann Drost: adrost@cbmin.org) and the Baptist Churches of Western Canada (Contact Dennis Shierman: dshierman@cbmin.org). This brings up a ticklish subject: although we have a fair number of supporters in western Canada, the distance-related costs involved in visiting western Canada are enormous. If you are interested in having us visit your congregation out west, it would be much more productive for us if you or your congregation could arrange several speaking engagements in your area, so as to maximize the opportunities of each trip.

Our work here in Kenya has taken on an exciting new flavour, with the addition of duties with The Sharing Way. These duties will only be part-time, but will focus on sustainable agriculture and agroforestry. Those of you who have known us for a long time know that this has been kind of a "side ministry" of ours for years, even when we were serving with another mission in Kenya. We have been asked to get involved in training of trainers in sustainable agriculture, and to help our partner denominations here to build their capacity in the area of agroforestry. As you can imagine, we are very excited about the prospects. One new approach to sustainable farming (www.farming-gods-way.org) has shown enormous potential for increasing yields, improving soil, and preserving moisture. And, of course, it incorporates the preservation and planting of trees, which is right up our alley!! Please pray that we can harness the simple, yet effective techniques of this approach, and thus provide a means for rural churches to help their own members and communities improve their individual health and the health of the environment around them.

Of course we are continuing our ministry with short termers. This continues to be an exciting way of helping Canadian congregations find their place in the global congregation - the Body of Christ. We have had so many people come to Kenya in the last three years, to see what the

Church is doing here, and to learn how the Church in Canada can be a part of what is happening here. And we have found that their experiences have given Canadian Christians a whole new sense of what can be accomplished in our congregations in Canada.

Please be in prayer for us over the next six weeks as we prepare to head home. We are still looking for a furnished home or apartment to rent in Toronto. If you know of a place that might be available - a professor on sabbatical or something like that, please let us know asap. Also, we are anxious to see as many of you as possible, so if your church, youth group, men's group, women's group, etc., has a slot open, we'd love to join you. Just contact any of the three people mentioned above, and they will see about booking. If you are interested in being a member of our financial/prayer support team, you can do so by clicking on www.cbmin.org/cbm/donate and follow the prompts, or by writing to:

Canadian Baptist Ministries
7185 Millcreek Drive
Mississauga, ON L5N 5R4

God's blessings to each of you.
Thanks so much for your prayers and financial support.

Tim, Diane and Caleb