

Benson Banner – May 2017

“So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God”. 1 Cor 10:31

The main thesis of Heather Ricks book “God and Elephants, A Worshippers Guide to Raising Support” is that we “... are called to be a worship leader ... creating a chorus of praise to the Master” (p.3). When we focus on telling stories of God’s faithfulness, it leads people to worship. May God stir us all to share stories of God’s faithfulness that inspire others to worship Him.

Manuel & Carmen, a German couple, participated in our MissionPREP PLANTS language acquisition course in February. Manuel shared an Ebenezer moment during our devotional time. (Ebenezer=“God has been my help”. Israel set up an Ebenezer-pile of rocks, to remember what God had done).



Manuel told of his time volunteering as an electrician in Kenya 10 years earlier, in order to have a cross-cultural experience. There was a mission connected to the school he was volunteering at that sent evangelistic teams on an outreach to preach, pray and visit in homes. Near the end of his commitment, Manuel, not yet a Christian, was asked to join them. The team leader took him along as they visited people, shared Bible stories and prayed with them. He encouraged Manuel to take a turn sharing a Bible story. Despite Manuel’s objections, the leader insisted that he could do it. Panic stricken, Manuel went home to prepare by reading the Bible. He shared in homes the next day and continued during the outreach. He realized he needed to decide if he was going to go “God’s way” all the way. He committed himself to God right there in Kenya, and now, almost 11 years later, after 4 years of training at a German Seminary, including a year in Canada, he and his wife are preparing to go to Zambia. The PLANTS course provided strategies for Manuel and his wife to do well in the community they are going to as there are no formal language schools. God has an amazing way of meeting people along their journey, calling them and training them to go to places all over the world. He is truly an awesome God!

RE-VIEW

We held our first RE-VIEW program for debriefing missionaries in November 2016 with 14 adults attending. It was a wonderful time of caring for missionaries in transition. We’re thankful to God who prompted our MissionPREP team to begin this program as we are seeing the need for this ministry of helping missionaries process their missions experience. We have a waiting list for this summer and have agreed to take on a few more than our limit. Please pray for the 23 adults, 18 children and the staff preparing for RE-VIEW at the end of July.



Not Alone

We want to give God praise for the wonderful team that comes along side of us as we deliver our programs. Here are a few of the many who come at various times to help. This was a day of training in March called, “T3” – Thanksgiving, Team-building and Training, for those who help at MissionPREP. Denise, our administrator standing beside Carolyn, is going to be on Sabbatical from July 1st- Sept 30th. We are praying for God to provide a registrar while she is gone.



Calgary

Ken was thankful for the opportunity in May to be our church delegate at our denominational gathering in Calgary. It was a privilege to see the Spirit filled leader elected to be our new President. An additional highlight was sensing God's presence when a team of intercessors prayed for and anointed all the pastors and missionaries.

Thanks for joining us in Prayer for...

- MissionPREP IMPACT and PLANTS training programs in June - 4 weeks. Wisdom, strength, protection for adult & children facilitators and all the participants.
- The new facilitators teaching PLANTS – wisdom as we tweak the program, organize details, pray for more participants.
- RE-VIEW in July as facilitators help families debrief sometimes very challenging experiences. Need for wisdom and another female debriefer.
- More full-time staff - the couple considering joining our staff sense God leading in other ways.
- Refreshment after a challenging year i.e. procuring a new venue, significant growth, recruiting & training staff, developing curriculum.

We'd love to hear how we can pray for you,

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord,

Ken & Carolyn

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Great Grandma Benson and Great Grandma & Grandpa Champion have been able to enjoy a few visits with Ana-Sofia.



Benson Ladies, Charity, Carolyn, Chara, and Ana-Sofia. Every giggle, coo, smile, rolling over makes us all gush with ahhhhhhhs!! It reminds us how much God loves us as His children.