

Gene and Robin Trask

*Missionaries to the
La Moskitia
Region of Honduras*

*Sending church:
Pleasant View Baptist Church,
Taylors, SC
Pastor Bill South*

Serving with



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2021 January February

Dear Praying Friends and Supporters;

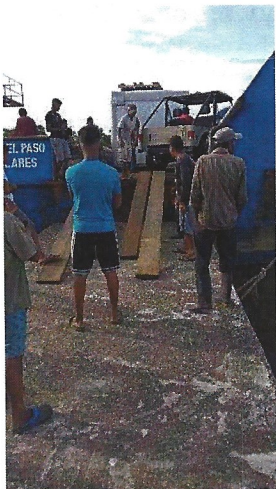
We generally think of the new year as a time of new beginnings. A time to reflect and determine to begin anew doing the things we feel we should be doing, and what we want to begin or complete in the coming year. This year, for us, it just seems like the truck has dumped the whole load in our lap at one time, and hopefully we'll have the rest of the year to sort it out. I don't know. For this hard copy letter for the months of January and February we will just give a short summary of what we can, so as not to have a 4 page letter. If you would like to read the full version, you can ask us by email, and we can send it to you.



First of all, in January, was the delivery of a motorcycle for our national pastor Andy. From our prayer letter, a family in North Carolina had the burden to purchase this for him as their personal Christmas project. With their promise to send the funds, we purchased the bike while we were in La Ceiba in November. Because of the disruption of transport as a result of 2 hurricanes in that month, it did not arrive till Sunday, January 3rd. The boat honked its horn at 6:30 am, letting people know they were here. So Andy and I were able to get it off, greased, oiled, and gassed up so he could take it that morning to preach at the mission work in Tikuabila. That is the main purpose for the bike, as the church there is a 2 ½ hour walk from here. Sunday evening, Jan. 17th, Andy was coming home after dark, and just 50 yards up the path, some guys had put a log across the path. When Andy stopped, they hit him in the head, drug him off the bike, beat him, took the motorcycle, and drove off. It was not till the third day that one of the guys who did not get arrested, took Andy's dad and showed him where it was, and they were able to return it to Andy. Praise the Lord.



Secondly, the 10th of January we were able to have a graduation for two of our students in the Bible Institute. Bro. Andy (with the motorcycle) and Bro. Humer Ronas, pastor in the village of Auka. Folks were brought in on Saturday the 9th, with a great evening service, both graduates preaching that evening. The next day on Sunday everyone was invited to come and enjoy the celebration of the graduation. The building and the addition were filled for this service, in the end we fed over 250 people. We praise the Lord for these two completing their studies in the Institute. Bro. Humer is starting the church there in Auka. They are in need of a building. They have built a temporary building with a thatched roof, but are looking to build a tabernacle type structure with cement floor and metal roof. Bro Andy is pastoring the mission work up the path from us in



Tikuabila. They have just finished putting metal on their tabernacle, they have cut wood for a patorium, and they average 10 to 15 people on Sundays now. Andy is also translating some of our Institute materials into Miskito, and will be helping us in teaching those as well.



Thirdly: The next day after graduation, the boat sounded his horn again and we went up for the delivery of the Jeep. Seven months after purchasing it, it was finally here. The Lord surely did bless us with this. Way beyond anything that we would have ever imagined to have had. The videos of getting it off the boat are posted on our Facebook pages. For someone who has never seen them get a vehicle off the boat before, it is a bit nerve-wracking. The Jeep has already been a great blessing to the work and the living conditions here. Other than kids, we have hauled the boat, lumber, canoes, and supplies already. We are so grateful to those who gave to make this a reality.

Fourthly: The first of February, Robin and I were able to go into the city to participate in a conference for Missionaries. We have never been to one because of the expense and distance to get there. This time we were already headed in, so we were excited to be able to attend. Bro. Goins and the folks in El Progreso at Lighthouse Baptist Church were so gracious to us, and we were able to meet several missionaries that have been working here in Honduras for many years. The messages were convicting as well as encouraging. The fellowship helps to encourage us to continue on in the work.

Fifthly: Our reason for going in was to haul the new Miskito whole Bibles from the other side of Honduras over to La Ceiba. We contracted a truck to carry us over to Choluteca where the Bibles were being stored in the material warehouse of Bro. Barry Ritchie. I had never met Bro. Ritchie other than messaging on Facebook, but he greatly helped us in getting the Bibles into the country and storing them at his place until we could arrange transport to come get them. All of that was going on between graduation and our leaving for the city. There were 625 boxes weighing around 40 pounds each. The Lord allowed us to be able to leave the Caribbean side of Honduras in the early morning, and reach the Pacific side by late that afternoon. We were able to help Bro. Richie's young men load the Bibles, take them out to eat, and be in the hotel by 9:00 pm that evening. The truck was overloaded by our standards, but still a heavy load by the driver's standards. Despite some setbacks during the trip, we were able to make it to Santa Rita, with Bro. Leroy Rolston by 3:30 that afternoon. Bro. Rolston has been gracious to store almost 400 boxes for us till we have space to keep them here at our house. Bro. Rolston's young men came and stacked the boxes on pallets for the forklift to set them off the truck and into the warehouse. There we wrapped them in plastic for storage. All of that in about an hour, and we were on the road again headed for La Ceiba. The next day the Lord worked it out that we could unload over 200 of the boxes in a warehouse maintained by the boat company. There they have to wait their turn to be shipped. (100 of the boxes should get here this week) We kept 3 boxes to ship on the plane so they would arrive with us on that Friday. We were able to hand out several on that first Sunday.

Sixthly: While in La Ceiba, we were able to complete the paperwork on our permanent residencies. The Lord caused that to be in perfect timing. We were able to go to immigration, pay at the bank, and get our pictures taken all in just a few hours. Otherwise we would have had to have made a special trip back into the city just for this. So now, after 10 years here in Honduras, we are permanent residents. Robin will still have to fly back in the middle of March to get the actual cards, but the paperwork is all done. This is a great blessing, we now have ID cards that are good for 5 years.

Seventhly: Sunday evening, the 21st of February, we sent 5 of our men upriver. (with paddles, and a motor) They were headed up to help Bro. Nichin, our missionary on the Patuka river, pour the cement floor for the church in Krausirpi. We have had the cement purchased since May, 2020. The first trip up in June, 2020 they were only able to haul gravel to the church site. This time they are working to finish the cement part. Rain delayed the work last week and they are having to stay another week. We will send pictures in our next update of the work.

Eighthly: (And LAST) on February 22nd, Robin began teaching some of our younger church kids in school. They have not had class since March of last year, and the local schools have passed everyone up to the next grade, even though they haven't learned the things from last year. Her goal is to teach them for one "school year" to help them get the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic. Hoping that this will give them a good enough base to continue on when schools here do open back up.

As you can see, we have been busy these last two months. We praise the Lord for the things He has done for us, and we realize that it is because of your prayers for us that we are able to continue. Your prayers are so important to us, not just for our physical wellbeing, but more so, our mental and spiritual as well.

We are anticipating the opportunity to preach to larger crowds than normal in the weeks ahead, as folks are coming to church to receive Bibles. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will have liberty to work in their hearts and cause them to do something about their need of Salvation.

In His Service
Gene and Robin Trask