



The *Trask* Family

Missionaries to the **La Moskitia**
Region of Honduras

Sending Church ~ Pleasant Grove Baptist
Church, Trenton GA - Pastor Philip Trask

Serving With



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Dear Praying Friends and Supporters;

The frigid temperatures of the first of January are gone and are only a passing “nightmare” as we move forward. I remember sitting there shivering and trying to plan things for our arrival here and thinking about crossing the bay and getting hit with that icy cold water and how cold it would be. (HA!!!) Then when it actually happened, what a relief that it was warm water. As you know, I never could adjust to the cold temperatures there in the US and in the Air conditioning. It has been nice getting back to a more “normal” kind of living. 😊

If you remember, we were delayed leaving the US, because we forgot to renew Robin’s passport. The Lord was gracious and allowed us to get it taken care of in one day, there in Atlanta. Bro. Keith Ware and Corey Sewell were kind enough to pick us up at Dad’s house at midnight on the 13th and carry us to the airport. Travel plans went great from there on with the exception on having to fly all our supplies out instead of shipping them by boat. That was an added cost in those days.

As soon as we made it to the house here we began cleaning and washing. Taking things one room at a time, we took four days to clean the house and try to put things back in their regular, or new, place. After our house we did the Sexton’s house, getting it ready for their arrival, and then moved on to the Institute Kitchen, trying to have it ready for the beginning of the Institute session the 3rd of February.

This Institute session, Bro. Larry and Mrs. Judy Sexton came in. Bro. Sexton taught the first of a course on the Pauline epistles. Along with them, Bro. Lanny Shackelford from Tupelo, MS, came to help in the work. He was a super help to me getting things repaired and up and running.

We ended up with 12 students this session. Four from here local and the rest coming in from other villages. We had three new students this time. One older man from the church here, wanting to learn more about the Bible, a young lady as well. This was a first for the Institute, however, we are wanting to encourage them to study so they, too, can learn the Bible and teach other ladies and children the Word of God. Another new Student is from Paptalaia, which is a village on the Patuka river in the area where the truck carries me over for my river trips. Bro. Francisco is working with Bro. Nichin upriver for a time and then will be looking to move into another area afterward.

Robin, of course, was in charge of the cooking for the Institute. More rice and beans than you can throw a stick at. 😊 We have added several other items to the menu, some have gone over well, others not so well. Rice and soup with yucca is their most stable meal, along with beans and bread for supper or breakfast. A few things that have been a real hit are baked chicken with mashed potatoes and gravy, or chicken and dumplings, as well as popcorn, brownies and homemade ice cream (with coffee, of course). These are just a few of the foods we have tried to introduce to them, but having a variety of foods is not something they are used to, so we have kept fixing a good amount of their standard foods.

Mrs. Sexton was a great blessing to us in that she did some cooking for us up here in the house. After so much beans and rice it is nice to have a different meal every couple of days. She also taught the kids’ Sunday School classes, freeing Robin up to concentrate on the cooking for the three weeks.

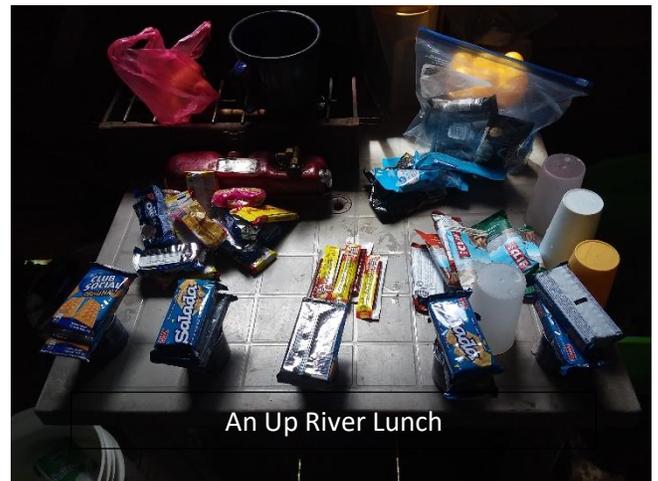
Institute ended on Saturday and on Sunday night around eleven Bro. Sexton, Bro. Lanny, Nichin, Francisco, and myself left out for Krausirpi and Pansana. We had a good load, but with the 40 hp motor we were making good time. Our delay came after we got to the other side of the bay and were waiting for the truck to transport us to the river on the other side. We were delayed about four to five hours in that. Despite the delay, once we were in the water and going we made good time and got to Pansana around three in the afternoon. By the time we unloaded the boat and carried everything up to Nichin's house it was dark and time to start cooking supper and then sleep. The 16-hour trip was tiring, but we praise the Lord for safety and good travels.



Tuesday we were able to put steps, door, and windows on Nichin's house, as well as lower the pump on the well another 8 feet. Then on Wednesday we went to Krausirpi to check out the well site and see if we were going to be allowed to finish drilling. The folks there were again eager to help us get the well finished, and we were even able to recover some of the things that had been lost in our absence. So we set the date to come back and drill for the 29th of May, right at the end of dry season.

We have two wells we need to drill here locally before then, a house to build for the watchman at Yazu, two canoes to refit for a small outboard for two of our preachers, but mostly I am wanting to take these three months and concentrate on studying Miskito. Learning Miskito has been a burden for some time now, we have progressed some but need to finish to the point of being able to speak it. That is the main goal in these months, aside from regular visiting, preaching, teaching, and a revival meeting the end of April.

We praise the Lord for two offerings coming in for our special projects. The volley ball project has been covered, and about \$300 on the flutes. We are also looking toward building a pastorium for two of our mission works, enabling a pastor to move in and build the church and the work. In addition to that we are needing to build a block wall around the compound that we have here. With an increase in population comes a needed increase in security. We will give more specific details of that next letter.



We also appreciate your prayers for Lydia and Levi in college, they are doing well and already making summer ministry plans. Also, please continue your prayers for Kayla that the Lord will have freedom to guide and work in her heart.

In His Service
Gene and Robin Trask and Family