## Partners in Prayer

## Gary and Sandra Clow

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## Dear Church Family,

September. Summer is almost over, the nights are getting cooler. Seasons change just as life itself changes. Sometimes life is hectic, sometimes fun, sometimes difficult. How wonderful that no matter what our season of life we have the presence of our Lord with us always.

We have had a wonderful summer. We spent two weeks at the end of June and beginning of July as campground hosts for Parks Canada at Waterton Lakes National Park in the southern Alberta Rocky Mountains. It was a very peaceful time, with the 26 site campground never full even on the Canada Day long weekend. We canoed and hiked and enjoyed the park. In the past we have always had many spiritual conversations in campgrounds as people asked what we did full time, not just on vacation. This year there were none. We found the same absolute lack of interest in any spiritual conversations everywhere we camped this summer. Over the past decade we have had less and less spiritual conversations with other campers, but this was the first time it was zero. We did have one really nice visit in Waterton with wonderful friends who drove from Calgary and spent a day with us.

Thank you for your prayers as we went to Thailand in July to participate in the World Team missionary conference. It was truly an incredible experience as hundreds of World Team missionaries gathered in Chiang Mai for a week. We came from many different countries and serve all around the world. We prayed and sang together in many languages and learned together in small groups and large groups. We met friends we had not seen face to face for years or decades. We talked and had fun together. Our daily late afternoon worship times were a highlight of the trip for us. Hundreds of missionaries singing with all their heart, praising the Lord together. The picture is of the Canadian missionaries who were at the conference. We are in the middle of the picture, Sandra in blue, Gary above her. *Thank you for your prayers for safety and a great conference as we travelled to Thailand*.



We are also very thankful to those who were able to help with the travel expenses enabling Carlos Cepeda to attend the conference. He was overwhelmed by all that took place and by the love extended to him by everyone. Enough donations were given to pay Carlos' expenses. We are truly grateful, as is Carlos.



Gary, Carlos and Sean



Sandra's small group in Thailand Conference

What do you do when you end up in Thailand after a conference? We took the opportunity to spend a week at a beach three hours south-east of Bangkok. Our nice hotel was inexpensive as were our meals. We spent hours every day walking along the ocean side, looking at the sites and little shops. The only downside of our time in Thailand was the humidity. We have lived in the tropics, know humidity, but found that Thailand in monsoon season is truly like living in a steam bath.

Our next round of World Team online courses for our missionaries begin in the middle of October. Gary coordinates the program and looks after making sure the internet learning platform is working correctly, so the next couple of months will be very busy for him. *Please ask the Lord to lead as we match course facilitators with courses and students.* The facilitators are a very important part of the learning process, keeping the online forums moving well in our courses on Evangelism, Discipleship and Church formation.

Sandra's online women's Bible study will begin in October. It is open to all the women in the church, but really is a great help to those who are unable to get out to a regular in-person study. Older women and young mothers with children can participate while staying at home. Our couple's study will also begin in October. Ask the Lord to guide us as we prepare each week's study and to use his Word to impact each participant.

In Cuba, the economic situation continues to be very difficult. Many pastors have fled the country leaving churches, including many Los Pinos Nuevos churches, without leadership. Their National Conference takes place September 23-25, with elections for new denomination leaders. *Ask the Lord to guide as Los Pinos Nuevos chooses their new leaders. Pray the leadership team will prayerfully ask the Lord to guide them.* 

Thank you for being a partner in prayer with us and supporting us in ministry. We truly appreciate you.

In Jesus' loye,

Gary and Sandra

World Team

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