

LCPC MISSIONS

June 2010 – Number 89

BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY—June

Day—	Celebratee
2	Jason Sterling
3	Luke Brannon
4	Melanie Lopez
4	Brad & Jamie Newport
9	Stephen & Becky Smith
12	Hannah Brannon
12	Stephen Smith
13	Lily Lopez
20	Emmalynn Mills
24	Daniel Cochrane
28	Lana Higginbotham
28	Verne & Alina Marshall
29	Brooke Higginbotham
30	Paul Reynoso

Ask Virginia Carrell for an up-to-date “Lake Crest Presbyterian Church” Missionary Directory, for details concerning address and age of the celebratee.

Virginia Carrell, Correspondence Secretary

LCPC YOUTH MISSION EFFORT—

The LCPC youth will be helping serve Wednesday dinner and clean up at the **Jimmy Hale Mission**, Birmingham, AL on the following 2010 dates:

- July 21
- October 20

MISSIONARY NEWS—

LOPEZ, JOSHUA & BERTHA

“Thank you so much for your prayers and support all of these years. Pardon my lack of communication. As a family we are doing very well. My wife is working as a registered nurse at Aventura Hospital (an HCA owned hospital). She is also attending Barry University working on her Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree to become a Nurse Practitioner (NP). She has excelled at work, at home, and at school. Lord willing, she will be finishing her degree in May 2011.

“My oldest daughter, Lily, will be 15 this coming June. She is growing up well and looking forward to being older and having more liberties. Estefany, my second daughter, will be 14 in September. She is growing up well. They are both doing fine at school and at home. My youngest, Melanie, will be 5 in June. She is developing well and hasn’t had feverile seizure in more than 1 year and 3 months for which we are extremely thankful to the Lord.

“As far as myself is concerned, I have been bi-vocational in ministry and real estate for the last 5 years. Both have taken a hit with the financial situation in which our country is facing. The income for the ministry dwindled and the expenses grew. At the same time there was another church within our presbytery that has been dwindling and is in revitalization efforts with Embers to Flame. So, we are working together with Iglesia Presbiteriana El Redentor (PCA) in the revitalization efforts and looking to become stronger to be able to continue the Miami River Church. Working in an area where the median household income is in the low \$20,000’s is challenging. People migrate often in and out. Support for church work is low financially speaking. Most of the financial support we had outside of Miami River Church has been gone since the end of 2008 when I had last communicated with you all. In addition, the expenses grew. As such, we felt that we should combine our efforts with Iglesia Presbiteriana El Redentor.

“Thank you again for your prayers and support.”

NICHOLAS, KEVIN & GERTRUDE

“We praise the Lord:

- Our personal health and strength—spiritually as well as physically—is improved.
- Matthew Lako is being preserved by the Lord although he hasn’t had the surgery yet.
- Shirley (Seli) Taupis is doing much better with her anemia since she started taking iron.
- We received a special gift to help us repair the walls on village house and this will certainly help with security of the house as well as help relieve allergies. Replacing the outer bamboo walls should help with bat infestation, too.
- We had a very successful literacy and Scripture Use workshop May 3-14 with three Central New Ireland languages. We developed texts for a transition primer for those educated in English to transfer reading skills to their languages. Kevin was a great help with typing texts and showing videos in the evenings.
- A Notsi delegation is going to the Madara language New Testament dedication tomorrow. We trust this experience will inspire them to keep going with translation of Scriptures in their language.
- Notsi community continues to amaze us as they support Bible translation.
- Don and Sharon Hutchisson are back in Papua New Guinea and making final preparations for the Sursurunga New Testament dedication.

“Prayer Requests

- We would like to complete desk top publishing of books for nine languages over the next three weeks as well as finish house repairs by July 1

- We want to complete the layout for the Sursurunga hymnbook. Sursurunga is the first language I worked with in New Ireland Province.
- The Madara and the Sursurunga are celebrating completed New Testament translations this year. Pray that the people from various dialects will accept these New Testaments and be able to read them with understanding and conviction.
- Pray for the Lord's protection and encouragement of Madara and Sursurunga Bible translators especially as they have just finished a major work for the Kingdom of God.

"Thanks again for co-laboring in prayer with us. We cannot do this work without you and your prayers! May the Lord be glorified in all that we do."

CUNNINGHAM, DAVID & SUSAN

LIFE & DEATH

"In our last update I mentioned meeting with Gary on Wednesday mornings to talk about the gospel. Gary's real name was Greg. We've been friends with Greg and his family for a number of years after meeting them through a gymnastics class our children were attending. You might remember that Greg was an alcoholic who had lost his family and job amongst other things because of his addiction. On Saturday, April 17, Greg took his own life.

"I received the news on Sunday morning before our church service. Thankfully another church leader was preaching that day. I was to do a baptism, commissioning, and church membership lunch. Susan and I were broken and crushed because of the news and she asked if I still wanted to go. I didn't want to, but I needed to. I told Susan if I break, then I break, but there's no better place for me to be.

"I needed to sing of the God who does all things well. I needed Jeff to come put his arms around me in the midst of my tears. I needed to hear Michael's story of grace, of his "new life", and to participate in his baptism. I needed to observe our community surround the McKee family and pray for them as they prepare for life in Turkey. I needed Dan's firm hug which spoke volumes to me even though he said little. I needed to eat lunch with those considering membership seeing how that very morning membership meant so much to me. Sunday morning I needed Christ and the community of Christ. I experienced both.

"I want to thank you for praying for Greg. In many of our times together Greg called out for Jesus to save him and forgive. Greg obviously didn't fully understand his own forgiveness, freedom, and hope. I believe he sees it as clearly as ever now.

"I met with Greg's ex-wife and children on that Sunday. We cried and talked about Greg's good days. They have been attending another church over the past year as a result of Greg's struggle and have indicated a faith in Jesus. In the midst of this dark time God has brought some wonderful light.

"The news of physical death and the celebration of spiritual life in one day. Thank you, Jesus, that although I 'see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.'

1 Corinthians 13:12

"As you can imagine it's been a tough week. We've seen the Lord's goodness in light of it all. We feel loved and cared for by our church and friends.

"Pray for our children as they process suicide. It's quite heavy and a bit disorienting for them. "

TRIPLETT, SUZY

"Back To Bangkok

"Yesterday I was walking up and down the 3 streets of my new community of Poothong talking with my new neighbors. They frequently sit outside on their porches or the sidewalk as a way of escaping the heat. I met an old man I hadn't met before. He owned a little store that sold snacks, drinks and ice. I began to explain that I used to live 20 minutes away in a fairly affluent neighborhood. Everyone had big houses, many of which were very nice. But they also all had big fences surrounding their house and yard. Nobody knew their neighbor. We both agreed, living in a poor community like Poothong was much better. Here we not only know our neighbor, but learn to love each other and depend on each other. It has only been a few weeks of living in Poothong, and I realize the honeymoon period could end soon, but that conversation made me thankful once again that God has placed me in this community with these people. I think I have much to learn from them about what it means to be a good neighbor!

"Transformational Church Planting

"One of the most common questions I got while I was home was "what exactly do you do?" It can be hard to describe, as no two days look the same. The overall goal is to establish churches amongst the urban poor in Bangkok that will transform their community. In thinking about what that means, we have identified two parallel tracts that we work to build, with prayer as the foundation of them both. The two tracts are making disciples and community development, and we are constantly thinking about how those two tracts not only run parallel, but intersect to the point of becoming one integrated, holistic work of God. In both the tracts of disciple making and community development we follow a common flow from solitude to community. In other words, we see our ministry to others as first flowing out of who we are, spilling over into relationships with individuals, and finally into relationships within groups of people.

"Prayer Requests

"Pray that God would lead Christy and I as we begin to more strategically approach the community development aspect of our work.

" Pray for our upcoming interviews with the 7 members of the Poothong community council. Pray for me as I continue to settle into my new home and the many changes and transitions I am experiencing."

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