
Fwd: thank you!

1 message

Cityview Community Church Office <fbcelmoffice@ameritech.net>
To: Cheryl VanZandbergen <cheryl@cityviewcc.net>

Mon, Dec 31, 2018 at 12:54 PM

Cheryl

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: <nyagali@aol.com>
Date: December 30, 2018 at 1:46:32 PM CST
To: nyagali@aol.com
Subject: thank you!

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019!

God has answered prayer in big ways. Since I have been in clinic, I have had more opportunities to share with patients about the Jesus Road, as they call it. I'll share one story here. Last Monday, an old man, Amara, about 70 years old (old for here!), traveled about 100 miles on the bus by himself for his quarterly appointment for congestive heart failure. He shouldn't have come alone, but his sons were busy, and instead of listening to them and waiting until they were free, he came by himself. Anyone know any stubborn old guys? He checked out OK, but got had gotten robbed on the way here. So, he was waiting in line at the pharmacy to explain that, and fainted in line due to low blood sugar. He was given IV fluids and slept in the ER overnight. In the morning I asked the nurse what his story was. He was feeling better; blood pressure and all were fine. Only problem was that he had no money for transportation, nor to pay for his medications for the next 3 months and for the care he had received. And, he didn't have a cell phone, nor the number for his sons. The total was \$46 dollars, so I told him that I would pay for it. I didn't speak his language, so I asked the nurse to translate. First, I told him that I was not paying for him just because I am a nice person (although I assured him that I was....ha ha). I explained that people in my churches give me money to help pay for those in need to show them God's love and to share about salvation in Jesus Christ. The nurse gave a thorough gospel presentation, too. He said, "Last night, I was a bit frightened about fainting and being without my sons, so I asked the nurse where I would go after I die, if I died right then and there. She told me the same thing about heaven and Jesus." I encouraged him to think seriously about his eternal future. One never knows when that final day on earth will be. He agreed. Another nurse passed by and talked to him about the same thing, and he said, "you are the third person to talk to me. The white lady just told me to decide whether or not I would accept Jesus." We prayed with him and sent him off with bus fare. The next day, 2 young men came asking for the white lady who had paid for their father. They had rode a motorcycle the 100 miles to thank me, and tell me that they couldn't pay me back right now. I told them that it was a gift and the reason for the gift. They said that their father had told them the story. I encouraged them to think about their own spiritual state. They reported that Papa was better. I told them how pleased I was that they came all that way just to thank me and explain their situation. On Friday morning, one of the nurses told me that she had taken their phone number, and called to see how their dad was. He had suddenly gotten very ill, and passed away on Thursday. With sadness at the news, I hoped that he had decided to follow Jesus. I had taken took his photo, but I am technically challenged and cannot get it on this letter just now to show you his cute old face!

In the valleys and on the mountain tops, the Lord keeps encouraging me. I have learned so much about REALLY trusting His sovereignty, goodness, love, and justice. Please keep praying for me. I still do battle with discouragement, but am learning to keep looking again and again to Jesus, instead of my circumstances and the spiritual battle before me. It has been especially difficult as several close missionary colleagues and prayer partners have recently retired or else gone home for a home assignment. I am thankful for Linda, our retired nurse, who is a great encourager, friend and prayer

warrior, and for my dear African friend, Yana, who is like a sister to me. A big goal for 2019 is to change my thinking, asking God to do so by His grace.

Another subject of thanksgiving is that 3 families have joined my support team and one friend has increased his monthly support. My support level is 88% and the current need is \$700 per month. Unfortunately, I lost some monthly support in the last 6 months, and our health insurance went up (again) by \$137.

If you would like to start supporting me monthly, quarterly or yearly, or if you would be able to increase your current support, please use the following link or send a check with your support intent explained in a note to: WorldVenture, 20 Inverness Place East, Englewood, CO, 80112-5622.

One time gifts will also help my deficit, AND, I use those monies, too, for patients like Amara.
<https://www.worldventure.com/give/commit.php?REFundID=4200179>

Another huge thank you goes to the many people that gave to the hospital fund since I wrote in June. Some people gave multiple times for a total of \$8,842. I had mentioned that we needed another \$19,000 in order to buy a month's supply of medications. Praise the Lord, we are well on our way. What a blessing and encouragement!

If you would like to give to the hospital account, write to WorldVenture, citing account number 6462-932 or go to the link below:

<https://www.worldventure.com/give/donate.php?REFundID=6462932>

Thank you so much for your generosity and faithfulness. My heart is full as I think of how you have blessed me with gifts and prayer. May the Lord bless you with health, joy and peace in Him for the New Year!

Blessings,
Diane Eliason
serving with WorldVenture at the Baptist Hospital in Cote d'Ivoire