

February 2010

Dear Praying friends,

Greetings! The tragedies in Haiti have been at the center of our church life. Since we have a number of Haitians in our congregation, we have been very concerned about their families. The first week there was very little communication from relatives. It was a struggle to keep hope. One fellow broke down and cried in church. Another head of a family left the church during the hymn service to keep from showing emotion. Several others, though, testified that the Word of God preached that day was so helpful to them. We are excited to inform you of how the Lord answered your prayers. No one in our church lost family members in the earthquake! All of us want to express our deepest gratitude for your intercession.

A couple days ago, a young lady, Isabelle, walked in the church asking what is the difference between the Catholics and the Baptists. You can imagine the rest of the conversation. Antoine attended our worship service a couple Sundays ago. He is a young businessman with a Roman Catholic background. Recently Marc visited our prayer service. He is Roman Catholic, has a matrimonial service business and is moving back to our district of Paris. Pray for the salvation of each of these.

Recent x-rays of the hip revealed that arthritis has caused Wanda to no longer have cartilage in that joint. She is limited to the use of a wheel chair except at home where she uses a cane. The rheumatologist said Wanda would have to have hip replacement surgery as soon as possible. The rapid loss of cartilage is probably due to all the cortisone her pituitary tumor had been producing. A deacon in our church recommended the doctor who had done that operation for his mother, because he is also a Christian. Interestingly enough, our rheumatologist recommended that same surgeon! Since she and the surgeon are friends, she was able to make an appointment for Wanda to see him three days later. The surgery has been scheduled as early as March 12, which is very unusual. Praise the Lord! Thank you very much for your prayers.

In our December prayer letter, we encouraged you to pray that our landlord would allow us to continue renting our present church hall. We are able to do so! This is a much greater answer to prayer than what we can express. We therefore wish to thank you "a thousand times" for your fervent prayers.

Your witnesses to France,

Andrew and Wanda Barnes