



McGrath's News

*“Break open Your words, let the light shine out, let ordinary people see the meaning.”
Psalm 119:130—The Message*

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Our heart is not turned back, neither have our steps declined from thy way.
Psalm 44:18

Dear Faithful Partners:

Home Going

On February 17th, Sharon's Mom, Gloria (Dickinson) Baird entered into the presence of her Saviour and Lord. Subsequently, two memorial services were held – one in Wainwright, Alberta and the other in Brantford, Ontario. Both were well attended and both gave testimony to Mom's love and service for the Lord. Touching eulogies were given by her step-children, Derek and Janine, her grandson Brad, and her son and daughter-in-law, Gib and Marilyn. We are grateful for the clear presentation of the Gospel at each service, and pray that it will impact those who attended that do not know the Lord.



Sharon and I drove back from Wainwright, Alberta, leaving on January 8th, and arrived here in Kitchener on Friday the 13th of March, after being storm-stayed in Jamestown, North Dakota, for a couple of days. The storm had forced state officials to close the interstate we needed. The Lord was gracious and provided perfect roads and excellent weather the rest of the way.

We are very grateful for all the cards, email greetings, and gifts to various agencies in memory of Sharon's Mom. Your expressions were so encouraging and edifying during difficult days.

Home Coming



On May 25th, Lord willing, at 7:50 AM, we will be flying from Pearson Airport in Toronto, and arriving in Manila on Tuesday night at 9:50 PM. Our tickets are in hand and we are now in the paperwork and packing stages of life. Things have been going very well so far, and we anticipate that everything will be accomplished and ready for flight time.

While we still have need of some support (see chart at end of letter), Wycliffe has agreed to let us use some additional personal funds to offset what we need, so that we can travel to the field. Several have indicated that they would consider support after we arrive on the field, so we are confident the Lord will provide the needed funds during our first term on the field. The last couple of months have been so exciting as we have seen the Lord's provision continually. Some of our extra support needed is due to the Canadian dollar exchange rate, and so is out of our control.

This will be like coming home for Sharon, as prior to coming back to Canada, to marry Eric, it was her home for 17 years. We are both excited about getting to the field, going through language studies and orientation, and then diving into the work, fulfilling our roles as Library Manager (Sharon) and Member Care Facilitator (Eric). As we mentioned before, Eric's role is a new role and in some ways it will be developed on the fly. There have been suggestions of things like overseeing Thursday morning devotions, seeking to meet the needs of those who come through the guest house, to moving out into the community around the centre, and seeking to build bridges with our neighbours. Exciting opportunities it seems.

Coming Up:

May 17th, 2009 at 10:50 AM at Northside Community Church, 55 Leonard St., in Kitchener, will be the date of our commissioning service. This is the Victoria Day weekend and we thought by having it then, any who desired and wanted to travel, would at least have some extra time to do so.

This time would only be made all the more special by you, our partners and friends, joining us for this very important and special occasion, if you are able.

Once we leave for the Philippines, we are anticipating a short time back home during the summer of 2011, and hope that we will be able to see many of you then, if not before we leave.

Until then:

Please continue to pray for these matters, as the Lord brings them to your mind:

- 1) on-going good health for both of us
- 2) continued success with all the paperwork, and especially for our visit to the Philippine embassy in Toronto, to obtain our visas.
- 3) wisdom with the packing and storage that needs to be cared for.

We praise the Lord for the offer from our car care provider, Dan, who has offered to allow us to store our supplies in a shed on his farm, while we are overseas. He is also allowing us to keep our car there as well. Sharon's brother and sister-in-law, who serve with ABWE in Togo, will be using it when they come home in July for their year-long furlough and then returning it to Dan to hold for us in 2011.

The Lord is good and we are grateful for each one of you who make this opportunity to serve Lord in the Philippines possible.

With overflowing hearts,

Eric & Sharon McGrath

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800-463-1143

By contacting The USA Wycliffe office: Wycliffe Bible Translators, P.O. Box 628200, Orlando, FL 32862
800-WYCLIFFE

Mark support sent to the office "for the ministry or work of Eric & Sharon McGrath"

March Support Status Report:

% OF TOTAL NEED MET 91%
BALANCE REQUIRED \$400/mth
Praise God for His faithfulness!
Thank you for praying with us for the
balance.