

Hi all,

Wanted to update you on our arrival in the Philippines. We are here in TUG in the house we have lived in for most of our time here. It served as a guest house to many NTM people while we were away. A few things have changed in our absence. The property now has city water which eliminates the need for a water pressure tank. It seems that tanks were a real issue while we were away! A couple of people have shared a bit about different times when the tank exploded and how they were at the house and hit the floor thinking it was a gun shot or a bomb in the back yard. All the exciting stuff happens when we are on the other side of the ocean. :(

The water dispenser (cold or hot clean fresh water from a 5 gallon jug) fell victim to mice while we were gone. Carl took it apart, diagnosed the problem and decided we had to get a new one. Spent some time looking for one and found a few at a local drygoods store. Had to double park on Main Street down town in order to get the dispenser. We forgot the whole fiasco that it takes just to buy something. You choose the one you want, haggle over the price, THEN they have to test it in your presence to make sure it works as there is a "no return policy" so.....while Ronalyn stood on the street in front of the store waiting for the "not so clean" water that they put in our new dispenser to get hot and cold, Carl stood in the street carrying on a friendly conversation with Mr. Police Man who kept telling Carl he had "two minutes only" to move the car. Carl shared the situation with him and he could see what was going on so.....they just chatted while the water got hot and cold. Then we had to come home and put half a 5 gallon container of clean water through the machine to clean it out so we can now drink out of it. NOTHING is EASY is in this place!

We are getting settled in s-l-o-w-l-y. Carl and Zach worked on the red motorcycle that had been stored and got it up and running a few days ago. It went in to get legal again and is now good to go. Our white bike had been being used and maintained by other missionaries so it only needs a few quirks worked out and it will be ready for the boys. (Turns out that a new battery and bit of other repair was in order). Carl and Zach worked on a smaller red bike that we left with another missionary but he has his own now so.....it needed some tinkering too. We did a grocery shopping run on our first Monday night, Miriam (our house helper) did a market run on Tuesday and I did the shopping to get flour, sugar and such (as well as some fruit) so the kitchen is pretty well stocked for the moment.

We arrived in TUG on Sunday evening just before dark. Roger and Sue had made a corned beef stew and brought it to the house. Eddie and Helen had rice and chicken cooked on a spit for us also. It was a very tasty dinner and just what we needed before crawling into bed, exhausted from a full day of travel. We unpacked some of our bags and put a few things away before bed, just to keep us moving a bit.

The cooler weather here has taken us by surprise. It is very pleasant and we are enjoying it for the most part. Carl and I got into the water bed only to get up again to put the extra sleeping bag that we use between us and the cold mattress in place where it belongs. I also went in search of a blanket to use on top of our sheet. We "offed" the fan which felt good but led to both of us getting several mosquito bites on our faces since that was all that the nasty little buggers could get to. We have had the fan on every night since, just added more cover to keep us warm in spite of the moving air. The boys have their fans on and seem to be doing ok without an extra blanket.

Monday we did some more unpacking and settling in for a bit, went to the hangar and studio to greet our day-to-day workers and see the New Tribes Mission folks working there. Then we went to the river bank for a picnic with some of our ex-patriot friends and their wives. Met two new couples there that fit well into the group of Ex-pats that we

so enjoy spending time with. We are excited to see what God has in store for us and them! We were invited to swim but the weather is surprisingly cool for this time of year. Roger and Herbie were brave enough to swim but the rest of us just looked on. The river was high and running VERY FAST and STRONG at the low water bridge.

Tuesday night we had dinner with a group of friends again. We all met at a restaurant here in town for a send off for one of the guys. He is the Austrian that Carl met in Bukavu, DRC a few years ago and realized that his wife and family live only a few miles from us here in the Philippines. We were united again our last term here when Herbie's daughter recognized Rona at the grocery store and they stopped to ask if she was married to a guy named Carl. So we have developed a relationship with all of them and enjoy the quarterly trips that Herbie gets to make to the PI to spend with his family. Herbie is on his way back to Nairobi, Kenya this time so we are glad we got to spend a couple of days with him this trip.

Its Wednesday and we have had two power outages here at the house today. So life is indeed getting back to normal.

Thanks to all of you who helped us get here. We left 4 boxes to be sent via slow boat to Manila. Thanks to Preacher Tim for delivering them to Chicago. We still need the \$240 to get them here. We are also encounter some non-budgeted expenses now that we are here and opening things back up. Please consider how God might use you to help meet these "extra" needs. Thanks for you prayers and support of our endeavors here!

IN HIM,

Carl, Ronalyn, Caleb and Zach (our intern)