The Danas

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Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years;” (Gen 1:14 NAS)

Daylight is getting noticeably shorter and seasonal change is on the cusp. God does not change, but we humans have the privilege of looking back at our past, living in the present and looking forward to the future. In this season of life Ruth Anna and I are filled with gratitude, sensitized to grief, and looking to Him for our future hope.

This summer and fall we have been making an effort to see long-time supporters. At Thanksgiving we were happy to see our two daughters, son-in-law, and Ruth Anna`s family. God encouraged us as we continue contact with our former foster son and marvel at what God is doing in his and his fiancé’s lives and the three child young children. Please pray for them as they let God order and establish Himself in the center of their new lives. Pray that they will find a place of fellowship to learn and grow.

We are grateful for your prayer for the Maliseet community nearby and for us as we build relationships. We ask God to use us to establish His people to be a visible witness working together. We are learning to practice patience from God. I am grateful for open doors, new people I meet and the support of God`s people. We would like to do an outreach with the youth and eventually, with a long term goal, a group studying the Scriptures together.

What a joy to visit the Maliseet community at Tobique for Bible Study and prayer. We witnessed a wonder that God had done; a lady who had lost all hearing had come back to the study for the first time after her surgery. She could now hear 80%. It was special to hear her talk in her first language and to see her interact with everyone. She even shared how she had used her new found hearing to help others and to testify of God`s grace.

We have committed ourselves to be involved in peer to peer member care with some people within NCEM. Mark presented four, forty-five minute workshops over internet as a part of candidates training. We also attended a camp staff follow-up meeting in Ottawa.

Pray for us for safety in travel as it is an important part of the ministry. Once a month, Mark drives north to the Miramichi for prison chaplaincy ministry. He seeks to be a light, to share God’s Word, to be support in ministry to others, and a listening ear in a dark place. As we once lived and ministered in this area 30 years ago, we have been renewing contact with people in the communities. One Christian man is still praying for his wife to know the Lord after all this time.

The Circle Summit was held at Arrowhead Native Bible Center and is designed to give a biblical perspective to issues in First Nations ministry. Mark was a presenter on the topic of Disentangling Syncretism. Another goal of the conference is to help churches effectively minister to their First Nations friends and neighbours.

The Arrowhead Radio team have set a goal to record 20 people`s stories of redemption this year. Would you pray with us toward this goal? We recorded one such story during the Circle Summit conference. We believe that God can use these podcasts to change lives and to strengthen His people as they testify of God`s work in their lives.

We are grateful for your involvement in our lives and in this ministry.

Mark and Ruth Anna Dana

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