

TELENEWS

Special Edition: Saturday, January 16, 2010

G reetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who came as light into the world, that everyone who believes in Him may not remain in darkness. This is Mark Bube, reporting for this special edition of *Telenews* from the Committee on Foreign Missions of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

Once again, it has pleased our Lord to answer the prayers of His people. At 2:15 p.m. (EST) Ben Hopp gave us a quick call—they still had to go through U.S. Customs—to let us know that he and his family had arrived safely in the States. Shortly thereafter, he wrote:

We arrived this afternoon (Saturday) back on U.S. soil in Fort Pierce, FL. We had been working for two days trying to find a way out and to ensure we had confirmed seats on an airplane. Through your prayers and the very valiant efforts of various friends, we confirmed our seats on Missionary Flights International planes last night.

We were up at 5 a.m. and left the house by 6:15. We loaded up four suitcases plus a bunch of food we wanted to leave at Charles Amicy's compound outside Cabaret. The compound there is housing people who have lost everything in Port-au-Prince, including members of his family. We drove down to Port and arrived at the domestic terminal with no problem. Traffic was very light and all around the airport was surprisingly quiet.

The first plane to arrive was a Hendricks Motorsports Saab 2000. It seated about thirty people. We confirmed ourselves on the manifest, loaded our bags including dog, Thai. We are very grateful they were able to accommodate her in the cargo hold. We made a fuel stop on Grand Exuma island in the Bahamas and then on to Fort Pierce. In all the flight was two hours. Everything went so smoothly.

We want to say thank you again for your prayers. We know He was working on our behalf. On the one hand we are glad to be out safely and with so little drama. On the other hand we grieve for our Haitian brothers and sisters who are left behind to pick up the pieces. Even those who were spared physically have been devastated emotionally. We know that once again God is reminding all that only in the gospel of Jesus Christ can we have peace and healing.

Our family is now safe in the US. We are tired and spent. We are looking forward to being in contact with many of you and taking some time to rest. But we don't want you to stop praying. Continue to pray for the relief efforts. As we flew out of the airport we could see that a great effort is being made to bring the right supplies and people in. Pray for continued stability.

In case you were wondering, Steve Igo, OPC pastor from Michigan who was staying with us, also made it out on the same flight. Though none of would have chosen having a visitor in Haiti through this time, we have been greatly blessed by the fellowship and help of Steve.

Please join with us in giving thanks to our wonderful Lord for His goodness and mercy to us. And continue to pray for His tender mercies upon the people of Haiti in the weeks and months ahead, as they begin to recover from the widespread destruction caused by the earthquake this past Tuesday:

- that, in addition to having their physical needs met, they might find Christ, in whom there is repentance and forgiveness for sin, who is the living water, the bread of life, and the rock of our salvation;
- that it would please the Lord to bring a measure of order and stability to Haiti, so the Hopps might soon be able to resume their labors among the people of God there; and
- that additional laborers to proclaim to them the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ might be raised up to join the Hopps in Haiti.

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