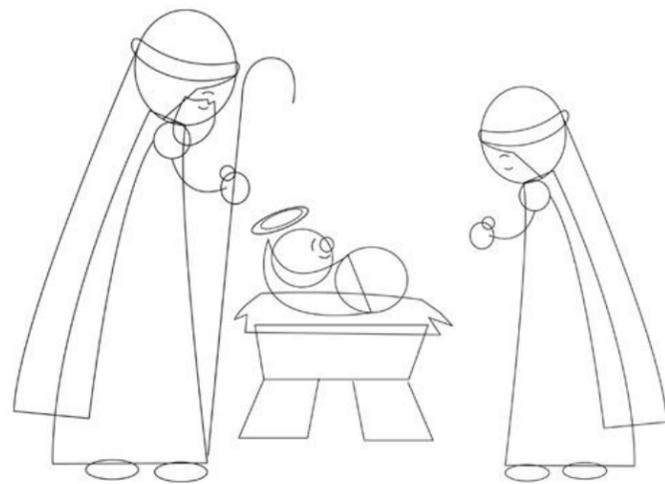


LOOKING AHEAD



- Nov 10 **ELDER CARE GROUP GATHERING** #2 Tamara Schmitke & #8 Matt Bittel
CHRISTMAS PLAY REHEARSALS FOLLOWING THE SERVICE Nov 10 - Dec 8
- Nov 11 **REMEMBRANCE DAY**
- Nov 15-16 **PROMISE KEEPERS MEN'S CONFERENCE IN TORONTO**
- Nov 17 **ELDER CARE GROUP GATHERING** #1 John Davis & #3 Ange Torrie
**Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are due back at church*
- Nov 22 **56ers MOVIE NIGHT** - Ralph Breaks The Internet 7pm @ OSAC
- NOV 24 **PLAN TO PROTECT TRAINING**
ELDER CARE GROUP GATHERING #6 Terry Bartley & #4 John Brookham
- Nov 29 **PARENTS NIGHT OUT** – Child Care provided 6pm – 8:30pm @ OSAC
- Dec 15 **FAMILY CHRISTMAS PLAY PRESENTATION 10am** **“CHRISTMAS AT THE STAR LIGHT INN”**
- Dec 24 **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE** @ Rockcliffe Pentecostal Church O.S
- Dec 25 -27 **OSAC OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS**
- Dec 31 **NEW YEARS EVE-** Joel and Ryan **“COUNT DOWN PARTY”** (more details to follow)
- Jan 1 **NEWS YEARS DAY-** OSAC OFFICE CLOSED



↑ CONNECTIONS →

KEEPING YOU CONNECTED WITH WHAT GOD IS DOING AT OSAC

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BONUS Children's Activity Page

The shepherds said to one another,
“Let's go to Bethlehem and see this
thing that has happened. Luke 2:15



SENEGAL *by - Angie Lyman*

On Friday, Sept 13 our short term mission team headed out for a long journey to Senegal Africa to **Prayer Walk**. We were there to walk through the streets of Senegal, Africa pray for the lost, and support OSAC's International workers Gary and Sharon. Our Motley crew had no idea what we were walking into...we had no idea what God had planned for us as a team and individually. The Howells landed in Senegal a little over two years ago. They now are the directors of a small but growing team of International Workers from Canada and the USA, to name a couple. They have become an instant family. They deeply love and care for one another. Our team was very fortunate to meet many.

Friday evening's International Workers gathers at the Pizza Rocket. The Pizza Rock is a restaurant owned by a Senegalese family that are always delighted to welcome this group of foreigners. Friday nights are a time to relax unwind and "NOT TALK" business! They gather to eat, laugh and relax.

One of our first sessions was led by Katie. Katie was going to lead us in learning to *listen and hear Gods voice*. Some wondered and had asked "what does His voice sound like". Katie answered "God's voice is unique to each individual, He loves us all so deeply that he wants to speak in a way that we all can clearly know that it is Him.

As we heard at the Missions dinner on the evening of October 26, International Workers aren't "SUPER HUMANS". They are regular people like you and I. God Called Gary and Sharon to the mission field and they OBEYED the call. I believe they would say they heard the voice of God leading them to the mission field. In the beginning they probably felt uncomfortable, ill equipped and unprepared. They needed to learn different languages, learn the customs and adapt to the new culture and climate which can change in an instant.

Everywhere our feet touched the ground in Senegal God was on the move and the Holy Spirit went before us.

Islam has been in Senegal for over 1000 years. We didn't lay bricks and mortar, but the Holy Spirit was working as we walked and prayed.

There was great value and **IS** great value supporting our International workers face to face on the field. We are a living testament of that and so are many of you, who have had the privilege to do the same. There is a small window at the moment in Senegal to reach the people with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Let's continue to pray for the work that is being done and at work there by our International Workers.

Thank you once again for your financial support and your prayers for our prayer walk mission team. Please don't hesitate to talk to one of the team and let them share with you how God revealed Himself in Senegal.



FUN DAY AT THE FARM, 2019

Submitted by- Heather Parkin

The 5th Annual Owen Sound Harvest for Hunger Fun Day at the Farm was held on Saturday, August 10 at the Parkin Farm under sunny skies, with over 1000 people attending. It was a very busy afternoon, with music by the Little Bigheads, a silent auction and all kinds of pie to satisfy your sweet tooth. The corn maze, horse & buggy rides, and the extremely popular barrel train operated by Conductor Neerhof were enjoyed by all. Demonstrations of vehicle extrications by the Inter Township Fire Department were found to be very interesting. The Farmer Olympics were hotly contested in both the junior and senior division. It has grown into an exciting event for participants and spectators alike. Displays of classic cars, farm equipment, farm safety, Grain Farmers of Ontario, Beef Farmers of Grey County, antiques, scale model diecast farm toys, Grey County Dairy Producers with their mechanical milking cow and Canadian



Foodgrains provided lots for everyone to see and do. Of course, face painting for the children is always busy, as was the Henna painting. Activities for children included the bouncy cow, a corn play table, matchbox car racing and a giant pile of sand. New this year was inflatable soccer, which was a great hit! The variety of animals and birds are one of the main highlights, with kids being able to actually pet them. Sheep shearing demonstrations were brought back this year and people found them most interesting. The day was rounded out by a free barbeque, which served approximately 500.

For the second year, a photo contest was held. People took pictures during the Fun Day and submitted them to us for prizes. We were once again pleased with the number of entries and the variety of photos.

At the end of the day, around \$15,000 was raised, which is the most to date. This will be forwarded to Canadian Foodgrains along with the receipts from the crops and donations made through the church and by sponsors. Donations can still be made until the end of November. Stay tuned for our final numbers. Thank you to the nearly 90 volunteers that helped make this day a success, as well as our many sponsors.

While the money raised at Fun Day is our main goal, I believe that we are also meeting one of our other goals, which is providing outreach to our community. We receive many positive comments from those attending, not only that day, but in conversations with people throughout the year.



Pumpkins have been picked and sold by donation at both the church and a couple of roadside locations.

Last year, we were able to send a cheque for over \$29,000 to Canadian Foodgrains. This money was matched 4:1 by the Canadian government to provide food for the people of Yemen. We don't know yet where the money from this year's project will be needed.

Feed the hungry and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon. Isaiah 58:10

The View from my Window

Submitted by~ Ilana Lobbezoo

Many of you may be following Bill's blog online which details his journey since contracting Legionnaires and being hospitalized in Australia at the end of June 2018. His blog is titled "The View from My Chair" so I thought I would use that as inspiration to share with you a bit of my journey over the past year and a half. As I have not been as stationary I chose a "window" which could be my view from any house, vehicle or hotel. Upon returning home to Phnom Penh from Australia in July 2018 to recuperate further we soon discovered that rest was an unnegotiable for Bill, and so while he spent hours in "his chair" I became busier picking up the slack on tasks which were once cared for by him.



"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea ... He says, 'Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.'" Psa 46:1-2, 10 While sitting in the emergency room, busy at life in Cambodia or returning to Canada I found peace in the midst of uncertainty in knowing that these verses of Scripture were true and I could place my faith in an unchanging Heavenly Father. Many months before Bill became ill I had an experience while attending a regional conference for International Workers, whereby I sensed God calling and equipping me for a renewed and more focused leadership task with our team of Canadian IWs in Cambodia. It seemed to be an individual calling which confused me as we were serving as a husband and wife leader team. However, as the second half of 2018 brought forth the realities of our situation and Bill's diminished capacity the message received came further into focus. It served as a promise and comfort to me to know that God had gone before and had already been preparing us for future circumstances we were unaware of. It also served as a promise and confirmation that He would be faithful to equip me for any job I would be called upon to do, and I had the assurance that this was what He was calling me to for this time.



I will not venture to say, however, that the journey has been easy or stress-free but I have had a peace all along the way knowing that our lives were firmly held within God's sovereign hands. In August we received two new families to our team which meant extra busy days and weeks of getting them settled into their new life in Cambodia. We had secured apartments for them in our building which turned out to be a blessing, making it much easier to connect and provide daily support. There were days when if I compared my activity to that of Bill's I was tempted to feel a bit like the Energizer Bunny. However, this also gave me pause to be thankful for health and energy to accomplish the tasks at hand. The months between his illness and our returning to Canada were full and not without other

challenges and frustrations within the team context which I did most of the heavy-lifting on, but I am so thankful for the worldwide body of Christ and my friends in Cambodia who helped support me along the way. I am also thankful for a loving and supportive IW team in Cambodia without which we could not have survived at times. Since Bill's energy levels were so low, and any exertion seemed to bring on more complications, I also found myself packing up our home for storage single-handedly. I would not have been able to successfully accomplish the task without the aid of our house helper, Lina, and teammate, Mike Schmidt, who came to Phnom Penh to help move our belongings into storage before departure.

Since returning to Canada we have been blessed with a lovely home to rest in and the support and prayers of many, and though our time here has been somewhat uncertain I am confident that God is in control. I kept busy throughout the summer months continuing to provide leadership support to our team on the ground through the miracle of technology which allows for daily engagement if need be. Bill has now had all the medical tests completed and is working with doctors to address issues that have been revealed. He has been experiencing marked improvement and increased energy recently, and we anticipate returning to Cambodia by next summer. Until then we will take advantage of our time in Canada to spend time with family and connect with our supporting churches as Bill's health improves. It is good to welcome the man I once knew back to more fullness of life once again.



WHAT A DAY! Submitted by ~ Fiona Sensenstein

In Galatians 4:4 we read the phrase "when the right time came", reminding us that God's perfect timing is something that we don't always understand but we see at work on an ongoing basis. That was the case for the team that went to Senegal in September 2019. When discussions first started, several dates were considered before plans were finalized for September 13-24. Little did we know how God had worked out details for what was ahead. I would like to talk about Friday the 20th, a day that might be described in the words from a children's book as "a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day."



As we met and prayed with a number of members of the team in Senegal we were able to hear stories of God at work in many ways, and we were privileged to be given the opportunity to pray with and for the team and those with whom they interact. It was invigorating and tiring all at the same time. On the Wednesday we had some down time and it was noted that the next few days would be difficult, based on what was planned. Again, little did we know what was ahead and the significance of that comment.

Friday was a weekly team prayer time and there were many things that were happening on that day: one team member would be in court where it would be decided if he would be charged and imprisoned for the death of a motorcyclist in an accident that had occurred earlier in the month; another had a doctor's appointment where decisions would be made regarding surgery for gallbladder issues; a couple would be announcing to their staff that they would be closing their café, where discipleship for new believers was an integral part of their ministry, and leaving Senegal. As the owner told us about the upcoming announcement, we were able to discern his burden for those he would be leaving behind, assuring him that God would protect and provide for those who were dear to him. These would all be prayed into during this time. Then, totally by surprise, the team learned that a Christian Fulani doctor, who was very influential in the country, died suddenly of a heart attack. Friday truly seemed like a very bad day. As we came together to pray hearts were heavy and burdened. With all that was happening, combined with much illness on the team, it was an emotional morning of prayer, sharing and listening to hear God's voice in such a trying time. As we continued to pray together, we were able to pray with them, then encircle them, lay hands on Gary and Sharon as team leaders and on other members, and pray for them. God knew the truth of the comment that the days ahead would be difficult. And at just the right time, he brought us all together to support and walk alongside the Senegal team for those few days.

God was truly at work that day. As we started with much heaviness and tears, we all saw God at work in remarkable ways. The court ruled that the member in the accident was free to go with no charges. He would be able to walk in the door of his home and declare to his family "I'm home." Arrangements were made for the member with gallbladder issues to be able to travel to the United States for his surgery. The doctor's family did not push for a quick burial, which would be according to their custom, so a funeral would be held the following week with many believers able to come and honour his life.

We went to Senegal to pray. Could we have prayed here at home? Absolutely, and I hope many of us do that for our International Workers, not just those in Senegal. But God wanted us to be in that place for that time. It was a privilege to be able to be used by Him in such a hands on, personal way. And in the end it was a day where God turned what seemed to be a very bad day into a reminder of His perfect plans and His care and compassion for His children. And that makes for a wonderful, encouraging, magnificent, very good day.

Listening to God

Submitted by~ Jamie Lyman



One of the first things we did as a team during our missions trip in Senegal was have several discussions and exercises on the topic, LISTENING TO GOD?

Our first exercise I teamed up with Gary Howell. We sat together and prayed asking God to reveal the name of a biblical character that God sees the other as. My mind was loud and busy, racing all over the place. I kept thinking of names all on my own. Remembering our earlier discussions, with confidence I boldly prayed for God to come and bind the spirit of noise and distraction and to release His spirit of truth and listening. What happened next was instant peace and quietness. God spoke and gave me the name for Gary. I asked God why that name? He gave me His answer. In this seemingly insignificant exercise, God showed up with a clear message that said "I do speak to you Jamie. You know my voice, don't be scared".

That afternoon we sat at CAFÉ SIMONA. The CAFÉ is a ministry run by a husband and wife team, FABIO and SIMONA.

1. Their staff consist of 7 Senegalese new believers in Jesus Christ.
2. They disciple their staff 24/7.
3. Despite the success of the CAFÉ they close Sundays and Mondays. Mondays are a bible study with their staff.

During our visit to the café, with a tender heart Fabio reveals they are leaving their ministry in Senegal and going home. Our OSAC team is the first to hear about this. Fabio would tell his team in a few days. His tears are for his staff. They are young in their faith and he understands the cost they paid to follow Christ. He worries for them. Fabio carefully asks us to pray into the following:

1. Peace for the ones he is leaving behind.
2. That the new believers would be baptized and take courage to share Jesus Christ with their families.
3. Where God is leading them next.

As Fabio spoke, a visual of 4 words in LARGE black bold font on a dull white background would not leave my imagery. I also heard those same 4 words being sung in a chorus. I knew I knew the song, but I couldn't put a name or any detail to it. It was distracting, so I put into practice our LISTENING TO GOD exercises. I asked God to take it away. He did not. It was so distracting that I asked God to take it away again. My spirit felt God say these words are for Fabio. I knew what God was telling me. Quietly I bent towards Angie (my wife), whispering "I think God is asking me to say something". She nodded. I froze. I got her left foot on my right shin.

Trusting on God's prompting, I gave Fabio His 4 words. They were **"I'LL DO IT AGAIN"**. What happened next was all Holy Spirit. As Fabio was receiving these words, a member of our OSAC team tearfully opened up sharing a time in her life of similarity when she had to leave unfinished relationships behind. But God gave her a song for comfort and assurance that He will provide. The song was, **I'LL DO IT AGAIN**. Looking at Fabio she quoted some of the lyrics she hung on to: **YOUR PROMISE STILL STANDS, THIS IS MY CONFIDENCE GREAT IS YOUR FAITHULLNESS, NEVER FAILED ME YET and I'LL DO IT AGAIN**. Fabio received these words from God. This was a powerful moment.



God takes great joy in speaking to us in so many ways. When we don't take the time to know His voice, too often we dismiss our feelings, thoughts, sights and sounds as coincidence, and miss out on His sweet fellowship. What He taught me in Senegal He still uses every day. What a blessing.

IDOP

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
for the PERSECUTED CHURCH

IDOP stands for International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. Every year, Christians around the world set a day aside for prayer for our sisters and brothers who are persecuted for their faith. Persecution for our faith can separate us from friends and family. In some countries, Christian leaders are thrown into prison simply because of practicing their faith. They are separated from their families—who sometimes do not even know where their loved one is being imprisoned. Families are left to support themselves while the breadwinner is confined to a prison cell.

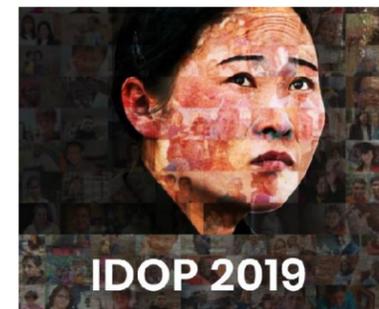
Yet in the midst of such suffering, God gives comfort to these families. They can pray for each other's protection, safety and provision. God hears those prayers. Despite their hardship, these believers are cared for by the Lord. Here in Canada, Christians may not suffer as much as our fellow believers in other nations. We sometimes face opposition because of our beliefs, but are usually not jailed because of them. But we need to remember to intercede for our persecuted brothers and sisters. "Pray for us ..." is the cry of persecuted Christians around the world.

Today across the earth more than 245 million of people are suffering for their faith in Jesus Christ. Each year, Christians in more than 130 countries stand in prayer with our persecuted sisters and brothers through the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP). Please join with us as Christians across Canada unite in prayer for our brothers and sisters who suffer because they declare their faith in Christ.

November has been specifically designated as the International Days of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. Millions of Christians face persecution every day. They are beaten, jailed, forced to flee their homes, and sometimes even killed for their faith. We invite you to set aside time to pray for those Christians all over the world who suffer persecution for their faith in Jesus.

*Pray that they would be strengthened in their faith through the Holy Spirit: "I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being." Eph. 3:16 NIV

*Pray that the peace and presence of Christ will sustain them: "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:7 NIV



*Pray that God will give them words of life to speak to those who persecute them: "When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say." Luke 12:11-12 NIV

"If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it" (1 Corinthians 12:26 NIV).

To learn more about IDOP Visit www.idop.ca