

# MacSaveny Messenger

## Foundations

While visiting West Village Christian Church this summer, we heard a great sermon from Derek Facculyn-Gous. He preached from Romans 12, and it was what he said in the introduction that stuck with me. He reminded us that Paul spent the first eleven chapters of his epistle to the Romans laying the doctrinal foundation on which he would rest his instructions in the final five chapters. Why? Because foundations are important.

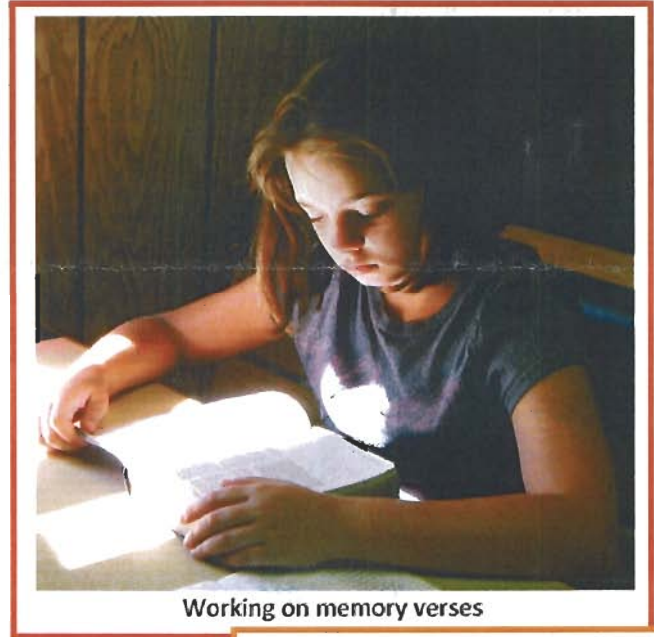
That point got me to thinking about what Tim and I have been doing for the past two years. We've made PowerPoints, taught VBS kids to sing in Swahili, written thank you notes, studied morphology and syntax and discourse analysis, printed prayer cards, driven tens of thousands of miles, dressed up in costumes, cracked eggs on our heads, demonstrated click sounds, mailed receipts, slept in a dozen different guest bedrooms, learned Mandarin Chinese "just for practice", and force-fed corn mush to 150 preteens. Why? Because foundations are important.

Now that we are entering our final semester of studies in Dallas, we are getting antsy to be on our way overseas. We're watching our teammates head out, and we long to join them – to get over there and get our hands dirty doing what we've been training to do. But at the same time, we place great value on this time of preparation. We've spent these two years laying foundations: receiving training from experienced Bible translators, building ministry partnerships, and becoming a part of the PBT team. We trust that when we arrive on the field, God will use these foundations to enable us to do His work much more effectively than we could on our own.

At the same time as we work on our own foundations, we have the privilege of helping to build the foundations of others as we share with them about our little piece in the puzzle of God's work and encourage them to be a part of it. A major part of this is ministering to young people. At the two camps that we visited this summer, we strove to instill in the campers an understanding of God's love for people of every nation and tribe. We also tried to pass on some of our excitement about missions as we challenged them to look for ways to use the gifts God has given them to serve Him at home and around the world. They responded with amazing enthusiasm, curiosity, creativity, and commitment.

We've included some pictures from our time at Oil Belt and White Mills. Pray for these kids, because their generation could be the one to finish the task that is so dear to our hearts. And pray for us too as we continue to build our own foundations.

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Working on memory verses



Tim teaching hackie sack



Eating African ugoli



Making memories



## News at a Glance

- **Summer road trip:** In addition to the churches and events listed in last month's newsletter, we have spoken at the following churches: Newton Christian (IL), Bone Gap Christian (IL), and North Syracuse Christian (NY); and we have visited Glenview Christian (KY), Hurstbourne Baptist (KY), and Northside Baptist (NY). Tim is currently in New York, and he will travel to Chambersburg, PA, to speak at Cornerstone Church of Christ on Aug. 9. After spending the following weekend fellowshiping with classmates from Johnson Bible College, he will return to Dallas around Aug. 18 to begin fall classes.
- **Erin's new job:** While Tim continues to travel, Erin has returned to Dallas to work as a Teaching Assistant for the first-year grammar course at our school, the Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics. She is having a great time working with the students and brushing up on her grammar knowledge!
- **Final semester:** This fall we are both signed up to take the last three classes we need for our MA. In November, we plan to take the Comprehensive Exams in order to complete our requirements to graduate in December.
- **Notes of thanks:** Thanks to the generous campers at Oil Belt Camp's Encounter Week and White Mills' Science Camp for giving toward our ministry with PBT. Thanks also to Newton Christian Church for blessing us with a shower of office supplies for use in partnership development, as well as a financial gift to help with our ministry training.



Washing up Tanzanian-style



Walking on...  
non-Newtonian fluids!



Learning  
Swahili



These girls are ready for some SCIENCE!

## Instructions for Giving

The Bible translation ministry is possible because of the generosity and commitment of God's people. To make a tax-deductible contribution toward our work with PBT, make your check payable to Pioneer Bible Translators and mail it to us at our home address in Duncanville (listed below right). For tax-exemption reasons, please do not include our names on the check.

### Praises:

- For God's provision during our time of preparation, and for the steady stream of prayer, financial and ministry partners He has put us in contact with.
- For Erin's opportunity to be a Teaching Assistant at our graduate school this fall.
- That Tim had successful laser eye correction surgery in July. Now he will not have to deal with glasses or contact supplies when we get to the field!

### Prayer Requests:

- That the Lord will keep watch over us and strengthen us as we are apart this month.
- For favor with potential partners as we do our final round of church-directed support-raising over the next couple of months.

## Contact Information

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