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31 May 2011



“But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. And Peter answered him and said, Lord if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come.”
Matthew 16: 27-29a

People walk on water in Michigan where I grew up. Sometimes they even drive on it. Of course, that is in the middle of winter when the ice on the lakes can be several feet thick. It is not hard to get out of an iceboat when a truck goes by on its way to an ice fishing shanty in the middle of the lake in January. It is an entirely different matter to get out of a sailboat far from land in June in the middle of a storm!

Since last June I have been hearing our Lord say, “Come,” to join Him for what will be an amazing adventure –building a new clinic complex in Wallondri. But first it was necessary for me to complete the Baptist World Mission orientation requirements. That was done with the Orientation Week at the beginning of May. The call to “step out of the boat” had not changed. I talked with my field representative about the project during that week, and then talked with my sending pastor several days later. On May 28 I received permission to go ahead with the new clinic project.

This will actually be a series of projects. I want to have all the paperwork for the property in order before we start. A few days ago I was told that all that is lacking is my signature. We already planned for a storage building with a section for watchmen, and now have the funds in hand. Other projects include a wall around the property, a well, the clinic building and a house. There are already offers of professional help from supporting churches. I plan to make sure Haitian requirements are met.

I am scheduled to return to Haiti on June 21. There has been a lot of rain there the past few days. The mosquito population is on the rise, so there will be problems with malaria soon. We could also be facing a return of cholera. Thank you for praying about the challenges the clinic faces.

Praise God gave safe travel from Haiti in April, and safety in planes and on the road since then. I now have my own car.

Projects We will be working on definite costs for the various projects during the next three months. That work will include meetings with the individual who is responsible for medical development in our region, making and checking blueprints, and taking advantage of the experience of those who have already worked in our area.

Prayer Please pray for wisdom as we work on the details for this project, as well as for God’s provision for the financial needs. Haiti has a new president, Michel Martelly. Please pray that he will have at least one godly advisor, a “Daniel” who will give good counsel.

It is not always comfortable to take what seems like a great risk. However, Peter did not hesitate to step out of the boat at our Lord’s command, an act that he probably never dreamed of doing before in his life. Trying to do the impossible in our own strength is foolish. That all changes when it is our Lord telling us to step out in faith. It is His power that does the work, His presence that encourages and His glory that is displayed. What “impossible” thing does our Lord want you to come do with Him?

In our Lord’s service,

Dr. Anne