

Arce's Newsletter – March 2014

Spring is four days away, and I am here at the Wilds, looking out our cabin window at about 14 inches of beautiful snow on the ground and temps in the single digits and teens today. I think I am the only person here in New Hampshire that is happy to still have snow! ☺

Update on Lu:

When we returned home from NH the end of December, Lu went to see a specialist in Knoxville, thinking he had another hernia. After his examination, the doctor scheduled surgery for Lu for January 15th. He had robotic surgery, and when the doctor started operating, he realized the hernia was very large, and Lu's stomach muscles had separated. Because of the size of the hernia and the position of the muscles, the surgeon had to put in an 8 X 12 inch mesh to hold everything in place. My sense of humor is somewhat warped, because now I can tell Lu "He really meshed up." Or, "Don't be so meshy!" (Sure, she didn't go through all that pain!)

After five weeks of recovery, Lu drove to South Carolina for a week to work at Associated Gospel Churches, a mission board for military chaplains. This time he and Ken Lawson, a military chaplain and friend, created a break area for their office, by installing kitchen cabinets and new flooring, new lighting and electric plugs. The office building looks beautiful, and this should complete the projects that they had planned to upgrade the offices.

Current project:

We are at the Wilds for two months, and with the cold temps, Lu is thankful that Roland has a lot of inside jobs for him to do. Hopefully, by April, the snows will have melted, and the men can get up to the cabins to open them up, clear out the varmints, and get the water running again.

Future project:

The end of May, Lu will be going to Johannesburg, South Africa, for two months, to work on a new project. He will be helping missionaries Joel and Rachel Kirby, as they start an orphanage for abandoned babies. This trip, Lu will be remodeling the lower floor of a large farm house, to accommodate an apartment and nursery for the first babies they will be taking in. This will include changing some of the floor plan, adding bathrooms, electrical, and whatever else is needed. The Kirbys have six acres of property, and have been approved by local officials to build three cottages in the future, to house additional children as needed. In South Africa, many babies are abandoned and left to die out in the bush, so the need for someone to rescue these babies is great, and God has burdened the Kirbys to meet that need. It is an honor and privilege for Lu to be able to help facilitate this new ministry.

Senior Moment:

While traveling home from a trip, we stopped to gas up, use the restroom, and get a soda. My job was to purchase the soda while Lu was using the restroom. After filling up at the soda fountain, I waited to see if Lu wanted anything else. I was waiting by the soda fountain when Lu came out of the restroom and said we needed to get on the road again. About a mile down the road, Lu thanked me for buying the soda when the alarm went off in my head! Visions of a front page headline – "Missionary couple arrested for coke theft!" ran through my mind as I yelled for Lu to turn around quick, that I had forgotten to pay for the soda! When I went in to pay the

cashier, I half expected the cashier to point at me and yell out to security, “That’s her”, but being a truck stop, there were many customers and they had not even noticed. After explaining what I had done, the cashier just laughed and thanked me for being so honest. She said most people would have just kept going.

As always, thank you for your prayers and financial support of our ministry. We truly do consider you co-laborers with us. God bless and keep you in His care.

Bev and Lu Arce

