

----- Original Message -----

From: rlw0011@aol.com

To: rlw0011@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2007 10:40 AM

Subject: Ron and Debi Williams, Tanzania

Hello to all;

Want to update you on how things are here in Tanzania.

I am fully recovered from my injuries and feeling very well. I appreciate all of your prayers so much. God bless you all.

Debi is doing well also. She has been updating our blog (Ronanddebbiewilliams.blogspot.com).

Our work has been going great. We had a baptism service on Sunday. We had such a wonderful time. I love the way our people sing and praise The Lord.

We are in one of the rainy seasons; so it is very wet everywhere. If it continues we will not be able to get back and forth to the church. We almost got stuck in one of the rivers the other day.

God has been blessing us abundantly. We thank you for your part in that through your prayers and support.

Yesterday we went out and closed on our land in Marurani. We were able to get some very nice land. We have a small banana plantation on part of it, some mango trees, and cassava. It is fronted by a dirt track.

I have been negotiating with the Maasai family that we bought it for, for several weeks. This is a very long and drawn out affair. There are customs that you can not leave out. One is that everyone in the extended family has to be present and agree to everything. In this case, the family was twenty eight people.

We would spend up to six hours talking for many days.

The closing with the government people and the family took five hours. But, the land is ours now. Praise the Lord! Our people are so happy and excited.

We now need to come up with the money to build a building. I would love to have the building finished by time we leave on furlough in late September; so, we could leave the church with a place to call home.

We need to raise the money in order to build. So, I will be calling our supporting churches to see if we can get some help. If anyone out there has some spare change you want to put to a good cause, please feel free.

I am sending some pictures of the baptism.

We love you and thank you for all you do.

Ron and Debi Williams

Missionaries to the Maasai and Warusha

in Tanzania, East Africa

----- Original Message -----

From: rlw0011@aol.com

To: rlw0011@aol.com

Cc: LOTS

Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2007 6:19 AM

Subject: Ron & Debi Williams, Tanzania

Just wanted to write an update to let everyone know how we are and what is going on here in Tanzania.

I am feeling better. I still have a head ache most of the time; but, the doctor says it will go when the swelling of my brain goes down. He said I could go out to the village; but, it would be best not to travel to the bomas for Bible studies right now. My memory is starting to come back and the doctor

says that should all return as well. We want to express our gratitude to each of you for praying for us during this time.

Debi is doing well. She says she was getting bored just sitting around watching me sleep. So she is glad to be able to get back out to church.

Bonaphas one of the first young men I lead to Christ here has surrendered to preach. He has started doing lessons to prepare for attending the Bible Institute in Arusha. Bonaphas is in his mid-twenties (most people out in the bush do not know exactly how old they are). He has been very faithful. He has been leading the church in Marurani while I have not been able to be there. Please pray for him. The devil hates it when a young person gives his life to the Lord.

We have decided that the building we are currently using is not really suitable for us and the people want more for it than it is worth. So, we are in the process of purchasing some land, thanks to donations from Heritage Baptist Church in Arlington, Texas, Pastor George Newcomb. Thank you.

As soon as we get the land settled we hope to start construction of a building. The cost will be about \$13,000. We already have part of that, again from Heritage Baptist. If you are able to help us with the rest please send to our mission account at The BBFI office, PO box 191 Springfield. Mo. 65801, marked with our name and building fund.

The cost is a little higher than what we had hoped. The reason is that we have to buy all the materials and have them delivered out in the bush and some of the workers will have to live out in Marurani while they are working so we have to pay for that. We will also have to pay for a water tanker to be kept on site.

We are all excited about the future.

Debi and I will spend all day Saturday in the village and spend the night. We bought a two-man tent in Nairobi when I went to the doctor. Easter Sunday we are going to organize as a mission church. We will stay out all day Sunday. The entire village will join us for Sunday lunch. Each of the families in Church is preparing food and Debi and I will take extra. From our calculation, we will be cooking about 35 Kilos of rich and over fifty chickens. We hope to be able to buy a cow and roast it. Sunday evening after we eat, we will have a service.

Please be in prayer about this. It is the same here as anywhere, more people will come for food than will come to church. So, we hope to be able to reach some who new people.

We are planning our furlough starting in October 2007 and being in the States through the end of May 2008. If you would like us to report to your church, please send us an email letting us know when would be a good time and we will try to work it out.

We again thank you so much for your support and prayers.

We serve a wonderful God. He can use each and every one of us if we just say yes when He calls.

Thank you and may God bless you.

In CHRIST

Ron and Debi Williams

Missionaries to the Maasai and Warusha

In Tanzania, East Africa

----- Original Message -----

From: RLW0011@aol.com

To: RLW0011@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2007 1:57 PM

Subject: Ron & Debi Williams, Tanzania

Hi, this is Debi. I wanted to give you an update on Ron and also ask for your continued prayer.

Ron has taken a bad turn. The swelling in his brain will not go down. They have had him on IV medications since Tuesday and it has not helped. He is in a lot of pain from the brain pressing on the skull.

We are going to Nairobi on Monday. The doctors think they will have to drill a bore hole in his skull to release fluid and decrease the pressure.

Please pray for me as I have never driven all the way to Nairobi. Please pray the trip will not be too hard on Ron. And, please pray that we can get this taken care of. Ron wants to get back to work so bad. It hurts seeing him having to just lay around.

We love you all

Debi

----- Original Message -----

From: RLW0011@aol.com

To: RLW0011@aol.com

Sent: Monday, March 05, 2007 9:37 PM

Subject: Ron & Debi Williams, Tanzania

I went to the doctor on Monday. Want to give everyone an update.

He said that my frontal lobe is still quite swollen. He said that I cannot do anything that causes my head to bump, shake, or rattle. For two months, he basically wants me to stay at the house and preferable in bed. He had given me some medicine that puts me in a deep sleep. Evidently your brain can heal faster if you are getting a lot of REM sleep.

I still get tired very easy. I get dizzy a lot. Even if I just go downtown with Debi, I hurt very badly. I guess the brain is a tender organ. It is a good thing I have such a hard head. I find I cannot remember things that I feel sure I know. Examples; I cannot remember my social security number, where I went to school in several grades, the names of my nieces and nephews, and other stuff like that. But they say that it should all come back. It is amazing; but, I have not forgotten one of the Bible verses that I have memorized. God is good. He lets you remember the important stuff.

I cannot go to Marurani for church or to the bush for at least two months. This is not a good thing. But, the couple of times I have tried to go to town with Debi, it has hurt so bad I had to go straight to bed. So I guess the doctors know what they are talking about.

Two of the men from Marurani came to the house today. They walked for hours to come see me. They said that everyone at church is very concerned about me and miss me so much. They had a talk together at church and they said that several people stood up and said that no one should stop coming to church because I was not able to. They said ours is the only church that teaches God's Word and they cannot let it die. So they have been having good crowds at church. One of the men, Bonaphas, is doing all the preaching and teaching. He is one of the first men I led to the Lord here. He has been studying with me and doing Bible lessons I give him for almost two years, so has a good grasp of the Bible. He talked to me today, he was the only person who came to the house, and said he thinks that God is calling him to preach. He wants to continue with my lessons and then go to the Bible institute that the BBFI has here in Tanzania. What a blessing.

Debi had a good idea and we put it to the church last week. Since I cannot go out to church for at least two-months, we are going to start have a Bible studies and lunch fellowship on Saturdays here at the house. So far, about fifteen people from church have said they will come. We are going to hire a safari vehicle to go pick them up and take them home. I am really looking forward to this Saturday for the first one.

Please continue to pray for Debi. All this has probably been harder on her then on me. She has held up wonderfully. She says for the first two weeks she was afraid that I would stay delirious for the rest of my life and it seemed like every time I woke up she was crying.

But she is doing OK now that I am better.

We are going to have to come back to the States in October of this year for our furlough. We will be there from October 10 until May 31. We will try to visit as many churches as we can; but, we also need to go to some new ones as our level of support is not what it should be. If you would like us to be with you during that time, email me and I will see where things fit in.

Thank you so very much for all your prayers and support. We love you and appreciate each and every one of you.

Ron Williams
Missionary to the Maasai and Warusha

----- Original Message -----

From: RLW0011@AOL.COM

To: RLW0011@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2007 10:27 AM

Subject: Ron & Debi Williams, Tanzania

I wanted to do an update to let everyone know how I am doing.

I have been improving a little each day. I do get tired very easily. I have trouble remembering things and seem to always have a bad headache. I am very concerned with my mental health.

We went to church in the village on Sunday. It was such a blessing to see how happy the people were to see us. We had a wonderful service. It was very hard on me though. When we got home, I had to have an injection for pain and go straight to bed. I was in bed the rest of Sunday and all day Monday. Tuesday, I started feeling better.

We have let people know that we would not be able to do any Bible studies at any of the bomas for at least three months. We are only going to be able to go to church in the village on Sunday. Right now, I just cannot do anymore.

Praise God we have some wonderful people and some able men to hold down the fort while I am not able to be there. As for the Bible studies at the different boma, we will have to give them up and start over when I am able.

I want to thank everybody for so many prayers that have been offered on our behalf. Without the consistent prayers of so many, we would not be able to do much at all here.

I believe that the men that attacked me had every intention of killing me. It scares me to think what might have happened to Debi had they been successful. I still do not know how I was able to fight my way into the car and get away. I believe that God's angels, in answer to your prayers were watching over us.

I also want to thank everyone that sent financial aid. We will be sending out a letter to thank each of you individually. I just want you to know how much it is appreciated.

Thank you very much

Ron Williams

Missionary to the Maasai and Warusha
in Tanzania, East Africa

----- Original Message -----

From: RLW0011@aol.com

To: RLW0011@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2007 6:58 AM

Subject: Ron and Debi Williams

The doctors gave Ron some meds to make him sleep. He was asleep from Friday evening until this morning (Tues.).

He says he feels better. He is talking better and seems to have improved in every way.

He says that he does still feel dizzy and his legs are wobbly; but, praise God, he is better.

The doctors say it will take at least three months for him to be what they would call fully recovered.

But, for me, seeing the improvements he has made is nothing short of a miracle.

Thank you all for praying so much.

I will keep you updated
THANK YOU
Debi

----- Original Message -----

From: RLW0011@aol.com

To: RLW0011@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, February 08, 2007 5:14 PM

Subject: Ron & Debi Williams

We took Ron for the Cat-Scan. The results were very positive. He does not have a fracture. The doctor said that he has a real bad concussion and that the front part of the brain is swelled up some. He will have some very bad headaches for a while. The doctor said he will continue to be confused, forgetful, and slur or mispronounce words. All of this should pass with in three months.

He has put him on medicine and told him that he needs to get as much rest as he can. That he is not to be going out to the bush until he releases him to do so. This is because he is afraid that Ron will be bumped and jarred around too much. He said that any excess trauma to the head could do further damage.

Ron is very frustrated with not being able to think straight. He forgets what he is talking about and is always asking what day it is. But, all this will pass.

The wounds from where he was cut with the knives are not deep, just slash type wounds, and so are not real bad. He does have bruises, scratches, and cuts all over his body from being hit with rocks. It is hard for him to walk around or get up or down. But, this too will pass.

We were most concerned with the injury to his head and God has answered all our prayers about that. Ron would never tell anyone this; but, on the way home from the Cat-Scan, he broke down and started crying. I pulled the car over and he said that he was so worried that he would never be able to preach or teach again. All you Pastors will understand this.

I want to thank each and every one of the people and churches that have been praying for Ron. Money can be replaced; cuts and wounds will heal; but not to be able to preach, I think would kill him.

Thank you very, very much from the bottom of our hearts.

Also there have been some who have said that they would help replace the money that was taken. This is such a blessing. Our support level is not very high and we would not have been able to come up with the money. We are like most of you we live from paycheck to paycheck. If there is any extra we usually use it to buy medicine or other needs for the people we minister to.

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

Debi

PS. As soon as Ron is feeling more coherent, he will start sending out his email updates and I am sure he will want to thank you all himself.

----- Original Message -----

From: RLW0011@aol.com

To: RLW0011@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2007 8:56 AM

Subject: Debi Williams

Just a short update;

The Cat-Scan was postponed. It seems that the machine broke down and the only other one in Tanzania is a nine hour drive. We are hoping that it will be fixed in the next couple of days. If not, we will probably drive to Nairobi, Kenya to have the test done there.

Ron had a really bad night last night. I do not think he slept for more than an hour. The pain was just too much. Not even the morphine helped. Please pray that God will ease the pain so Ron can get some rest.

We have been so touched by the flood of emails from all around the world. People we do not know and probably will never meet have sent messages letting us know that they are praying for us.

God is so amazing. Even in the darkest of times and with the work of the most evil of people, His love shines through.

I do not know what I can say except thank you from the bottom of my heart. When this first happened, I thought I was going to have to handle everything all alone. I was so scared and hurt; but, God has shown His wonderful love and care.

Thank you

Debi

----- Original Message -----

From: RLW0011@aol.com

To: RLW0011@aol.com

Sent: Monday, February 05, 2007 5:23 PM

Subject: Debi Williams

Just an update on Ron and our situation.

We have had several churches that have offered to help replace the money that was taken.

We want to thank each and every one of them. Also, I want to thank everyone for your prayers.

Ron is still in a lot of pain. The doctor has him taking morphine so he is sleeping a lot.

In the morning, we take him to another town for the Cat-Scan as they do not have the equipment here. The doctor thinks he may have a crack in the front of the skull from being hit in the face with a rock. Please pray that this is not the case. If it is, they say they cannot treat it here; so we would have to leave the country for treatment.

We had a wonderful surprise today. Ron and I were at the doctors most of the day. They were giving him some intravenous fluids and keeping him under observation.

Some friends of ours that own some businesses here in Arusha talked to the man that owns the house we are going to rent and got him to let us move in today. They said that they would guarantee the money until we got it.

They rented a truck and about thirty Maasai and Warusha from our church in the village came into town and moved all our stuff to the new house and set everything up. When we went home, the house was empty and everything was at the new house.

Seven young Maasai warriors are staying on in our yard and several of them accompany me anytime I have to go to the store or anywhere. They are fully armed with bows, arrows, spears, and knives. So I am not as afraid of going places.

What an outpouring of love. These Maasai, elders, women, and warriors were crying tears over what happened. The elders asked if they could build a hut in our back yard so there would always be warriors on the property and to escort us anywhere we have to go.

When I asked them why they would do this, they said that Ron was their shepherd and we brought them Jesus Christ and nothing they could do could ever repay us for that.

God is so good even in the most trying of times.

Debi

----- Original Message -----

From: RLW0011@aol.com

To: RLW0011@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, February 04, 2007 8:52 AM

Subject: Ron & Debi Williams

This is Debi writing.

Want to let you know about a terrible incident that happened last Friday.

Ron and I had gone to the bank to withdraw the money to pay the rent for the new house we planned on renting. Ron withdrew \$3500.00 as everything here is done in cash. and you have to pay six months rent in advance.

As Ron was walking to the car he was attacked by ten men with rocks and knives. They beat him very bad. He has a five inch gash on his right form arm from a knife and a long cut on his back. He is covered with cuts, scratches, and bruises. One man hit him right between the eyes with a big rock. Ron was able to fight his way into the car and we drove off with them throwing rocks at us.

Ron has been in real bad condition since. He has not been able to leave the house and has slept most the time. The doctor has scheduled a Cat-Scan for Tuesday for his head as they think he may have a crack in his skull.

We do not know what we are going to do since we have to be out of our current house on Monday and they took the money we were going to use to rent the new house.

Our main concern is Ron's health. He has been dizzy, confused, and sleeping most of the time.

We know that God wants us to be here; but, right now feel very confused and scared. Please pray about this for us and especially about Ron's health.

Ron & Debi Williams

Missionaries in Tanzania