

MAIORANO MINUTES

3RD QUARTER 2011

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

We received an email from a friend of ours, and I wanted to share a portion of it with you. There are many long hours and long days that go behind the ministry. At the end of some of those days, when we sit down and look back at the day, we tend to see the hundreds of little things that didn't get done, instead of seeing the thousands of little things that did. Jim printed a copy of this email for me, and as I read it, it was a reminder of all the things that aren't seen, but are very important in the lives of our students both young and old. I hope it will be an encouragement to you as well since we each have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of those around us.

What does a teacher make?

- *Well, I make kids work harder that they ever thought they could*
- *I make kids sit through 40 minutes of class time when their parents can't make them sit for five without an iPod, Game Cube or movie rental*
- *I make them wonder, question*
- *I make them have respect and take responsibility for their actions*
- *I make my classroom a place where all my students feel safe*
- *I make them understand that if they use the gifts they were given, work hard, and follow their hearts, they can succeed in life*
- *You know what I make? I make a difference.*
- *Teaching is the profession that makes all other professions possible.*

As I said, this was a great encouragement to me, and even though we are not all "teachers," we do teach others by our words and actions. Grandparents, parents, friends, encouragers, bosses, employees, even students - we all communicate with others and there are times when we know more than someone else. Do we take the opportunities we are given to make a difference in the lives of the people we touch?

We are finished the first quarter of our educational year. It has been a year filled with ups and downs, and I am looking forward to a schedule that becomes a little less chaotic. We have been very busy with activities both in and out of the classroom. So let me start back at the beginning and bring you up to date.

Our summer was a bit crazy. We are normally inundated with gardening, weed control, and preparation for the new year. But this summer we also continued our Precept study right through the summer to finish Revelation, dealt with all the issues surrounding the well, and most of my June revolved around the weeks leading up to my father's passing and his funeral. That left us with many things undone as we began the educational ministry on August 8th.

We began the year with 13 students although we had several more that we were meeting with and talking to. We have four new students this year. Emily's brother, Colby, joined us this year. He is in fourth grade. We have a new family of three. Devin is in ninth grade, Naomi is in sixth, and Josiah is a second grader. Devin and Naomi both came from accelerated classes. Josiah was struggling plus at this age students demand a lot of attention just because of their stage of development. This has put a little extra burden on me, but some of the students are helping out with him as well.

We also lost a student three weeks into the year. Rosa was with us for three years, and we knew that with the changes in her family life (with Dad and Monica heading off to college) there could be issues. It didn't take long for those issues to surface. It is hard to see a student that we have worked with for that long go, but we pray that she will do well in the new environment in which she has been placed.

Our Monday evening classes just began a study on the book of Hebrews. We even have people joining us from other states through Skype. How the world has changed!

THE WATER FLOWS

Jesus said, ". . . Whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst . . ." Did you ever stop to think why Jesus said that? Did you ever question just how important water is to life? I don't think you can really appreciate the true gift it is until you don't have it anymore. In 2005 we noticed water problems. Not knowing whether our water level had gone down or our pump had gone bad, we called the company that had worked on our well in 2002. They came to pull the pump out of the 900+ foot well. While pulling everything out, a piece of pipe broke and sent everything crashing into the well, never to be seen again.

Jim began hauling water for us and the ministry. He was getting it from a well on the mine's property right over the hill from us. A mile drive both ways from well house to well house, but very time consuming and very "unfun" in the winter and rain since most of the roads were dirt/mud.

In 2006, Jim received permission from the mine to pull water from this well if he ran a water line to connect our storage tanks to their well. As long as Jim maintained their well house, we could pull water out of there; however, we were on a lease to do this. We knew it would be for a limited time. In 2010 we were informed that they would not renew the lease because they are looking at selling the property some time in the near future, and they did not want us to be an encumbrance. So as of April 2011, our lease would be up.

In January of 2011, Jim noticed that there were problems with that well. The pump had gone bad. The mine didn't care. We think it was just a quick, easy way to get rid of us. So Jim was back to hauling water. Now he had to get the water from Gallup. An hour of travel, \$5 for 425 gallons of water, \$15 in gas - we were spending \$20 a trip and that didn't include wear and tear on the van. At almost \$200 per month, we prayed for some other way to meet our water needs. The pastor at Wild Cat Christian School and Navajo Bible Church saw Jim driving down the road with his water tank and called us. He wanted to know what Jim was doing. When we told him about our water situation, he said that he did not want to see us driving past his place anymore with the water tank on the van. We were to come get water from him. This was only a three mile drive each way instead of 20. Now we cut our cost from \$200 per month to about

\$120 per month, but it was still taking Jim 4-5 hours per week. What he saved in miles he made up for in the slowness of the pumping to fill his tank.

In May Verizon decided that they were going to bring a building and a crane to add a cell site to the tower here. We told them that if they did this, they were going to destroy our asphalt driveway. They said that they would not, and if they did they would pay to have it fixed. Sure enough, they did major damage to our driveway. When they looked at the damage, they said they would not pay for the whole driveway to be done, just the central part where their trucks drove. So basically they were willing to pay for a patch job. When talking to several people, we came to the conclusion that a patch job would make more of a mess than anything, it needed to be completely redone. Verizon told us to get an estimate for fixing the damage that they did. The estimate was close to \$15,000 dollars. We talked to the man who worked on our well. We think God had been bugging him a bit, too. He felt terrible that he had dropped everything in the well and thought maybe he should have used different pipe. He was willing to fix our well at cost or drill us a new well, basically at cost. Again after talking to some people, they were concerned about us trying to fix a well that was over 50 years old. God brought a Christian man into our life who was a water douser. He came to find water on our property. He said there was no water back where we had the previous well. There was only one place on our property that had water. We called the well-driller and asked how much he would charge us to drill a new well. He said \$40 a foot, figure 1000 feet, but he would charge us half of that. \$20,000 for a new well. Jim contacted Verizon and asked if they would be willing to put the money to fix our driveway towards a new well instead. They agreed.

So God opened the door for us to get water. They came to drill the well and struck a good supply of water at 960 feet. On September 24, we pumped water from our well into our water system. How glorious to take a shower with our water and pressure! We pray that our water dilemma is a thing of the past. We still need to make up the \$4,000 difference between Verizon's payment of the well and the actual cost, but God has supplied for us before, and we continue to trust Him to be our supply now. We continue to praise the source of living (and drinking) water.

JEHOVAH JIREH

God is our provider. We had an abundant harvest in the garden this year. We have a freezer stocked full of goodies for the winter to come. We have been cutting down the strawberries and raspberries, which is heart breaking. We had a week that the nightly temperatures were in the 20's. Needless to say, that put a stop to the fruit ripening. Now the animals get to enjoy the harvest as we throw the cuttings and the berries into the pens. All six goats enjoy the greens and Zem and Girl fight for the berries.

We also had our needs provided for in another way this year. One of the families that comes to the Sunday Fellowship and Monday night classes, told us several months ago that they would like to learn about taking care of the animals so that we would be able to go away and get some rest and relaxation. Gail would stop here every Monday night after work and help with the chores. She learned the routine of the goats and learned how to milk. She made friends with the dogs. So we gave the kids a day off the Thursday before Labor Day which gave us from Thursday to Monday off. We went on vacation (if you can call it that). We left Thursday morning and drove up to Ouray, CO. We spent about six hours 4-wheeling around the mountains of Ouray on Friday. What a treat! The beauty is breathtaking when you are at the top of the world like we were going over some of those passes. From there we went out to eat and then drove to Delta, CO, and stayed the night there. On Saturday morning we drove an hour into Paonia, CO, to a peach and apple orchard we went to last year. We spent about seven hours picking about 600 lbs of peaches (some for us, some for others) and then went to the apple orchard and spent another two hours picking 200 lbs of apples and talking to a Christian family there.

After packing all the fruit into boxes and placing them in cold storage, we got a good night's sleep and then headed home on Sunday. We arrived home at a decent time on Sunday and unpacked everything - including all the peaches and started spreading them out all over the house and training

center. We had Monday to prepare for the upcoming week and to start enjoying our peaches. What a treat they were and now there are many bags of peaches in the freezer that we will be able to enjoy over the winter.

We are truly thankful for friends like Gail and Barry who were willing to give of their time and assistance in order to give us a much needed break. God has certainly shown us His blessings and His provision over the last couple of months. We give Him praise for that!

GOD'S ANSWERS TO PRAYER

1. Water! Water! Water! How could I start with anything other than water! The well is working, and Jim no longer has to spend hours a week hauling water. What a shower of blessings that has been!
2. A bountiful harvest from our garden and the orchards we visited.
3. The time to get away and enjoy God's creation in the mountains of Colorado. Along with that the willingness of Barry and Gail to help us out by taking care of the animals for us.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING . . .

1. This may seem redundant, but we still ask that you pray for time and priorities. There is just so much that needs to be done, and we need to have wisdom as to where to draw the line. There are things that we can do to save time, but they all cost money. Somewhere we need to find a balance in our lives, and we are truly seeking to find that balance.
2. Wisdom as we deal with the needs of the children, the parents, and the students that come to Sunday Fellowship and Monday night classes.
3. Relationships to develop with our family. Jim and Jimmy have been spending more time together working and talking and it has been good for both of them. We have a desire to spend time with each of our grandchildren - Sam, Storme, Mariah, and Christan. We want to be able to get to know them, have input into their lives, and be grandparents to them!

Jim and Linda Maiorano * PO Box 5415 * Window Rock AZ 86515
ptc2522@gmail.com * web.me.com/teacheroftruth

I am working on putting this year's videos on the website as well as our trip to Colorado. Please be patient - there is much to do everyday and too few of hours!

Crane and building set up by Verizon



Well-drillers strike water at 960 feet



New pump-house, and storage tank. To the far left you see that little pipe sticking out of the ground - the well



To the left:
Our new group of students for the 2011/2012 educational year. Enjoying some outdoor activities for science. The students range from 2nd grade to 11th.

To the right:
Our amazing trip to Colorado. This is one of the rough areas on a trail called Poughkeepsie. Wildflowers were everywhere and the scenery in these mountaintops is breathtaking!

