



MAIORANO MINUTES

2ND QUARTER 2013



WRAPPING UP ANOTHER YEAR

Let me start out with asking what fun life would be if everything went as planned? That seemed to be a reoccurring theme for us over the last past year. Let me take you on a trip through some of our "unplanned" events.

Last August, we began the educational year with full-time help and sixteen students. Three weeks later, it was just Jim and I and sixteen students. By October it was seventeen and by January eighteen. Well, it was unplanned, yes, but it was a blessing at the same time. There are different dynamics in the classroom setting, but they weren't bad, just an adjustment.

I don't think Jim ever planned to be an educator, but we are making plans for next year together, as he will be taking on more responsibility of working with various students. I don't think he knows exactly what to think about all this, but he is open to do whatever God puts before him. One of his projects next year will be working with Kelsey, our soon to be sixteen-year old autistic young man, as they try to muscle their way through a consumer math course.

Since we are on the topic of Kelsey, we never dreamed of working with a special needs student. When we agreed to take Kelsey, I told his mom that we didn't have a clue of what we were doing besides being able to give him an environment where he could be loved and accepted for who he is. I think loving him came easily to us as well as most of the students. The accepting is a continuous learning process of being able to recognize that his thought processes are different from ours, so we all need to be willing to help him more in certain areas. God gave me a push in the right direction to understanding Kelsey in a very unexpected and unplanned way. Through a lengthy talk that I had with my nephew, I have learned much about how we can better help Kelsey in the future. My nephew has been working with autistic children for years, so he became a very unexpected gift from God - an answer to prayer.

Graduation went very well, even with some unplanned events. The graduation was

held at the Window Rock Museum's auditorium. There were mics but no mic stands. There were lights that seemed to light up everything but the person speaking. We worked with lights for a good 30 minutes trying to get them adjusted to the way we wanted them. Then a man from the museum came in to "help" us. He showed us where all the light adjustments were and proceeded to turn them all down and show us how to turn them up. We had no time to start over so it was what it was! Let's just say it was a good thing we got there almost two hours before it began. The night went well. Both seniors did an outstanding job with their speeches, and God was honored and glorified in the process. We do have a DVD available of the graduation ceremony. I won't be putting it online with our other videos, because of space limitations, so if you are interested in a copy, we will be happy to get a DVD to you.

BIBLE STUDIES

We finished the Covenant study in May. It was a great study, and we had several new students attending. Some were coming from an area church that is looking for material to use for their people. We are thankful that we have something to share with them.

This summer we are going to do several things all focusing on teaching the students to think from a Biblical perspective and learning the steps in doing an in-depth study on any book of the Bible. We will use the book of Jude to learn how to overview, use word study tools, the importance of cross-references, and how to grammatically diagram a Biblical passage. We are hoping that it will be an enjoyable study and profitable for each one who comes. The first night will be June 10.

PA/DC REPORT

The unplanned followed us to PA in April. We started with a student sick. Fortunately we had him on the road to recovery quickly. It was a bumpy trip to begin with, so for some of the first time fliers it was a bit unnerving.

On Sunday the students spoke in Mrs. Kamps Sunday School class. We then went to Washington's Crossing and then to the Jersey shore. The students walked barefoot on the beach and in the ocean (which was cold)! We saw some of the places near Brick, NJ, that were still trying to recover from Hurricane Sandy. We then had a nice dinner at Emily's family's house.

Monday we headed to Baltimore. We ran into traffic jams all around Baltimore so a two-hour trip took four. We were a late for the first school, but they accommodated us as did the second. The Baltimore students (mostly black) were thrilled that they got to meet and touch (shake hands with or hug) a real Indian. For our students, it was a great experience learning to communicate to various groups of people. They all made mistakes in their presentations and gracefully fixed it and went on. We then enjoyed the inner harbor and the aquarium.

Tuesday to Thursday was our DC trip. However, Monday was the day of the bombing in Boston and there was talk of closing down DC. We had no idea of what we would find when we got there. Nothing was affected for which we were thankful. We met with Congresswoman Grisham and then were to take a tour of the capitol. The unplanned then reared its ugly head again and an award was being given which closed down the capitol and our planned tour. So with another change of plans, the students actually got to sit in on the House presenting things for debate (including abortion issues and gun laws), and then we moved over to the Senate to hear final presentations before they voted on this last round of stricter gun laws. It made some good discussion time with the students. Later that day we went on our tour. The students enjoyed the monuments, the museums, and Arlington Cemetery.

It took us seven hours to travel from DC to PA (a trip that should have taken three) because of traffic. Once in PA we hit Philadelphia, Lancaster, Gettysburg, Valley Forge, and a Sight and Sound presentation of Noah.

It was a full trip and a good trip. We were all tired and ready to come home at the end, but it will be an experience for each of the students to remember. There will be a video online in a couple of weeks so check out our website by July. We thank you for your prayers for us during this trip.

AREA SCHOOL MELTDOWNS

That might seem like a harsh statement; however, it is the truth. While we were away, Hilltop Christian School announced that it was closing. 40 teachers resigned from the Window Rock School district and they announced the closing of three schools. They are just going to funnel the kids into the already crowded schools doubling the capacity they were built to accommodate. Gallup Catholic School closed its high school and the nearby Catholic school is having major problems. Most of these issues revolve around finances. We were pounced on as soon as we returned home with people inquiring about their children coming to the PTC. We believe the flood has just begun.

RENOVATIONS

With more students coming, we are trying to make space for them to move. Notice I did not say make room for them. We have no more room. What we are doing is trying to make the most of the room we have. Thus, Jim tore out the wall in the classroom last year to give us more moving space. We began using the Kamp Science Center (KSC) this year, although not to its fullest capacity yet. There are still some things that need to be finished in there. Jim has to run a sound wired and then put in a couple of ceiling tiles. He still needs to put in the sink, water heater, and run the water to the KSC.

Now we move to the outside. We have two basketball hoops and a set of monkey bars outside. With 18 kids we were pushing the limits. We are going to move the monkey bars, add a swing set, and then fill that area with rubber mulch. We have used wood chips around the monkey bars, and every year we watch the wind blow it all away. We would also like to make an area with tables (the old monkey bar area) where the students can sit and talk. We are talking about getting a protected trampoline (still in the thought process) and a couple of sturdy outdoor games. It is a very expensive adventure because just the rubber mulch is \$3-4,000 and the swing set another \$1,000. Many of these playgrounds that you see in public areas are easily \$50-100,000. They are really neat, and I guess you can afford them when you use someone else's tax money! We have to be much more frugal!

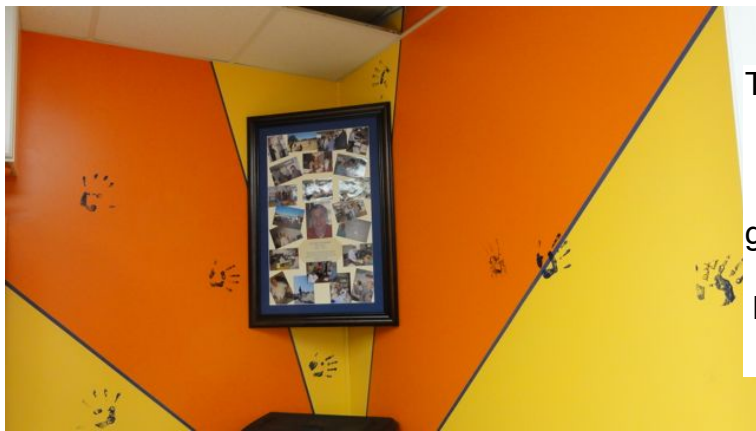
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GOD'S ANSWERS TO PRAYER

1. A good and safe trip to PA. We put on about 1,500 miles on the East coast and the students now know what traffic jams look like.
2. A good year in the PTC. It finished well and we appreciated the help that we had over the year. Beka is planning on going to college in the fall so we will be losing her. Steve is still looking at helping maybe in more of a capacity than he has been. We will see where the Lord leads.
3. 14 years ago, when we were planning the educational ministry, we had prayed for 20-25 students. God spared us from our ignorance. Now with 13 years behind us, we are looking at the possibility of 20-22 students. The maximum space we would have would be for 24, but we may not be ready for that yet.
4. My toe is healing and didn't cause much of a problem on our trip. I received some homeopathic injections in my knee right before leaving and they helped tremendously and my knee withstood the walking. We have found out that I have ligament damage in my knee, possibly from walking without my orthotics. We thought they were causing my ankles problems, but have since found out that that was not the case. So orthotics are back in and hopefully I am on the slow road to recovery.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING . . .

1. Wisdom with incoming students. As we said there are going to be a flood of students. Right now it seems like we are at our maximum of 22 with those we have talked to. There are still 10-15 other students out there that have talked to us but haven't gone any further. We live in a society where people wait until the last minute to do things. We have even had parents show up with their children on the first day of class and expect us to welcome them in.
2. Continued health for Jim and I. We are both battling various issues, but feel that we are making progress.
3. Time, funds, and help with the outdoor renovations.
4. There is much to do over the summer, perhaps our busiest time of year. The garden in planted but we desperately need rain. We have gotten none this spring. There is a lot of cleaning and organizing to do. Lesson plans, working with students, testing new students, keeping up with gardens, renovations, and many other things will occupy our time. In the midst of that we want to take time off, rest, have some fun, visit with friends, and relax. We are doing our best to quit every day at 5 so we can get cleaned up and relax a little before bed. Pray that we are sensitive to our needs.



The memorial wall in the KSC. Collage in the center has pictures of Mr. Kamp and the kids. We are going to try to get all the students' prints who were here during the years Mr. Kamp taught. Each hand print will be signed.



Emily and Mariah after graduation.



The eighteen students for the year.

Hanging out on the Jersey Beach



Moving cannon balls at Fort McHenry



Solution to when Jim and I needed some peace & quiet

PA & DC Trip



Congresswoman Michelle Lujan Grisham (middle)

Standing in the middle of DC



Soldiers housing in Valley Forge (below)



Speaking to one of the Baltimore schools.

Devin is being wrapped in the flag made by Mary Pickersgill for the war of 1812.

Independence Hall (below)



Emily finds the name of her 2nd grade teacher's husband on the Vietnam Memorial Wall.



This is what they looked like the day we left for home. They enjoyed the last of the green grass of PA.