

**Gerry & Denise Beauchemin**  
**Great Commission Support Ministry News**  
**November 2015**

Dear friends,

Please excuse this longer letter as there are a number of things we want to share with you. I (Gerry) had hoped to make this a video update, but as I began to bring the various elements together, I saw it would take too long, at my skill level, to do it right. So I'll wait till I'm a bit more efficient at it.

What delayed this letter most was two urgent tasks that needed to be attended to. Towards the end of September, when we were to write this letter, I remembered I had a link, in my (first) book, which has since become a pornographic site. It was in the bibliography where it would likely not be seen by hardly anyone; so I didn't think that much of it... until the next morning. As I awoke, I sensed strongly the Lord saying to me, "Work on that now." So, since I was planning to update the book anyway, I thought it best, for economy and efficiency's sake, to do both together. The project ended up being more involved than I anticipated. But, praise God, it's out of my hands and with the person formatting it to the requirements of our publishers (Create Space, Kindle (both with Amazon), Smashwords, & Lightning Source).

The second task was to start planning and preparing for a recently decided dental mission trip to Senegal West Africa in November. I had to laboratory test some procedure modifications, plan what I needed to bring and order them as soon as possible so they would arrive on time.

### **Dental Training For Missions**

#### **I.B.C.D. Dental Class (Institute of Biblical Community Development)**

It was an honor for me to lead the annual dental training course at I.B.C.D. in W. Siloam Springs, Arkansas. Since Dr. Dee Danner volunteered to partner with our team, I thought I'd invite him to teach this class with Dr. Paul Yi and myself. This would give us all the opportunity to brainstorm together new ideas on dental missions.

The class consisted of Christian leaders from Africa and India: George Shakwelele from Zambia, Dino Kile from Dem. Rep. of Congo, Lalit Kumar Bardhan from India.



In addition, we had Dan & Lorie Wilson from Idaho who go to the Philippines regularly and are planning to retire there soon. As usual, we trained our students as simply as possible so they themselves would have more confidence in attempting to train others in the field.

At the closing celebration, it was truly a joy to hear each testify how blessed they were with the course. What stood out most to our foreign students was how we, as instructors, tag-teamed without confusion or contradiction. They thought we truly preferred one another in love. In addition, they were astonished that we would admit when we didn't have the answer or full answer to a particular question. Doctors, in their cultures, always have definitive answers to everything they say.

## Major Breakthrough in Dentistry – Silver Nitrate with Fluoride Varnish (SN)

Dr. Dee, Dr. Paul, and myself, discussed and shared information about a new approach to treating dental decay. It's applying silver nitrate with fluoride to dental decay. It requires no drilling or painful injections. It arrests the progression of decay by killing the bacteria causing it. It offers great promise in fighting the scourge of global dental disease. It's proven itself in clinical practice by a core group of dental practitioners in Oregon, Washington and Maine. It is very effective and costs just pennies per tooth. This method allows us to treat all the teeth in the mouth at the same time as the initial dental exam. It is little known at present, but starting to gain attention.

I'm very excited about a special conference call we (Dr. Dee Danner, Jason, and myself) had recently with Dr. John Frachella from Maine and Dr. Stephen Duffin from Oregon, both pioneers in this awesome dental treatment. These guys are also dental professors at dental schools in California and in the northwest. They've prepared a special course in Silver Nitrate treatment and are writing a textbook on it at the professional level explaining in detail the science behind the methodology.

What does this mean for our dental ministry? It will make teaching the treatment of dental decay easier, faster and less expensive than before. It will also permit our students to care for more people in the field, and it will especially motivate them to train others because of its simplicity and economy. For more information on this awesome treatment, view this short video from Dr. John Frachella. Please watch the whole thing, even if some of the stuff in the middle is dental jargon for dentists.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=ot4MNoyF7eI>

## Africa Front-line Missions

Our dear friend, Luke Fisher, returned to Dem. Rep. of Congo this summer to continue training Christian health care workers there, some of whom work as nurses for the government. He asked if I could assist him in training his students since he's quite limited in his French. I suggested that I could make a video training presentation of the various topics rather than to actually go to the DRC.

It was a good opportunity for me to put into practice some of the video editing skills I've been learning. It was a challenge for me in three ways:

1. I had to decide the specifics of the teaching plan for the silver nitrate/ fluoride technique which I have not yet field tested.
2. Teach it in French, since I am a bit rusty.
3. Do my own video editing, which I'm still learning.



Though it took quite some time, the Lord got me through. Here's an example of one of the six Congo videos I did for Luke: <https://vimeo.com/139441673>

## Senegal W. Africa

I'm excited to announce that I'll be going back to Senegal W. Africa next week to train my former dental team (and others) in the new dental technique and to teach them my updated A.R.T. course. My decision to go was only made last month and thus I have had to focus intensely these last few weeks on acquiring and preparing all the various elements involved for it. I want to assure that all my trainees will have what they need to put these skills into practice after I leave. I'll share more about this in our next letter.

## Hope for All

I'm happy to say that *Hope for All* is now in the hands of proofers. I've gone through it cover to cover, over and over and over again, to the point where I finally felt it was time to leave it in God's hands. I've already received several manuscripts back from proofers and the feedback has been very helpful and encouraging. This is an important step since whatever we write can be easily misunderstood, confusing or simply difficult to understand, not to mention typos and grammatical errors. I pray God works through these proofers to help make this book what it needs to be. I still need to go over all the proofed documents and decide what changes need to be done. I truly appreciate your prayers in this project.

## Nurturing Hope



I haven't talked about this before, but as an author, I get my share of emails, letters and phone calls from people who want to talk to me about our precious hope. Sometimes they just need to talk to someone and be encouraged in their faith.

Recently, I received an email from a dear lady who had just finished proofing the new book for us. She wrote saying her 41-year-old son, in a drunken rage, shot and killed himself. She explained: "He had waged a battle with alcohol and prescription drug medication for several years and it got the best of him." Denise and I called her and we prayed and tried to comfort her. She shared that she doesn't know how she could have faced this tragedy if she didn't believe in God's prevailing love for all. She kept thanking me for having helped her understand this.

I feel a strong sense of responsibility when people reach out to me... to listen... try to understand... encourage... nurture... be a friend... pray... even offer counsel at times. This all takes time and focus and I realized I can't do it successfully alone. So I've started sharing this need with some of the pastors who have contacted me. They've responded very positively. One suggested that we get a 1-800 number and take turns taking the calls; so I've begun working towards that goal. The first step was to write the following invitation at the close of my new revision (mentioned above):

### Heart-To-Heart: Nurturing Hope

Jesus said wherever two or three come together in His name, He's right there with us (Mt.18:20); that includes the phone. So come, visit with us in His name—voice to voice, heart to heart. Let's talk about the peace and joy we've found in Jesus, encourage each other in our common hope, and pray together... So grab a coffee, tea or whatever... Call or text us toll free: 1-800 254-1334

## Technology and Faith

Remember “Romper Room” and the lady with the “magic mirror” who pretended seeing you at home? If not, this may tweak your memory: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=td1KAgRYUGA> I remember when I was about five, dreaming of a day when I too would be able to see and talk to people on their TVs. Well, here we are! According to Adweek, “The golden age of digital video (Skype, YouTube, etc) is here. Whatever our message is, research shows that people watch videos more than any other medium to learn about what interests them. I think it's true. Our YouTube videos, without doing much to promote them, have over 61,000 views. So I truly think we, who love Jesus, need to get on board with video. It has the potential to bring our message to millions, as those who are blessed and inspired by it will forward our links to others and then it can ripple out from there.

Denise and I did some rearranging in our home to free up a room for video production. I researched and purchased the necessary editing software and other needed equipment to do it well. That was quite a process. Some key points I've learned about video is that the lighting and audio must be really good, the subject positioned properly on the screen with an appropriate (not distracting) background. The message must be clear and from the heart—brief as possible for a sound-bite generation. Then there are all the nuts and bolts of the editing process, which takes time to learn. Pictured right, I'm video recording how to fabricate a dental instrument with wire for Luke's class in Congo.



## Denise's Corner



The summer has passed and vacations are over. Children are back at school and moms take a little sigh of relief. That's where MOPS comes in. We started our fall semester in September welcoming new moms and tired moms of preschool aged children. This is my 6<sup>th</sup> year as a MOPS mentor. I enjoy getting to know the moms over the course of the school year. My role is to encourage and to offer whatever experience I've gained from my years of mothering. And the hope is always to encourage moms to find their strength and hope in Jesus.

Having finished the *30 Life Principles* study, and with some of us traveling, and me spending time with Nicole waiting on her baby to arrive, my bible study ladies and I took a few weeks off this summer to enjoy some fun time together. We got back to our study in September, this time studying Colossians. We are trying to use an inductive method of study that helps us look at the scriptures very closely to see the details and how they pertain to us. One of my ladies is very skilled and experienced in this method and has been a great help and encouragement to us.

Of course, as always, I keep the “home fires burning” – helping Gerry however I can. I also take care of administrative type duties – especially accounting and correspondence. My goal is to have the attitude of Colossians 3:23 – “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord...”

# Family News



Everything's coming up **PINK!** Yes, we welcomed our newest family member on August 29<sup>th</sup> - our beautiful Dora King Petrarca. She is Nicole and Paul's first child and we are all in love with her! She arrived safe and sound via unplanned c-section. She had a bit of a rough start – she got dehydrated and landed back in the hospital at 4 days old. After a couple stressful days, she returned home with Mommy and Daddy. Big sigh of relief.... She's doing well now, growing like a newborn should. And it doesn't seem possible but, she grows



cuter each day.

Anna came to meet her new niece on September 11<sup>th</sup>. She brought Carter along. How fun for the two cousins to meet. It was especially nice for Gerry and me to see them as we had not seen them in person since last November when Carter was 2 weeks old. How precious it was to hold him

and kiss him. We so cherish the moments we have with our kids.



Thank you for your prayers for Renee and Azarja and the passport situation for Ezra. Praise the Lord they finally have the visa in hand! They received it September 28<sup>th</sup>, after waiting since February for a decision on their appeal of the first denial. So they are now free to travel without fear of bringing Ezra back into South Africa.



We are looking forward to Christmas this year with great enthusiasm. All the kids will be home, at least for a few days! It's the first time all the cousins will be together. It's going to be a fun memory making time! My heart rejoices at the thought and swells with love for these precious blessings God has given us.

Last newsletter we shared with you some of our health issues. Gerry has recovered well from his hernia surgery. Things aren't quite what they use to be, but then again – he's not as young as he used to be. Something we are finding difficult to accept at times.



Prior to the hernia surgery, Gerry also injured his shoulder while exercising. It was giving him a lot of pain, to the point where he was really limiting the use of his arm. He finally had it checked, expecting it would need surgery. But, praise God, physical therapy was recommended, and it worked. His shoulder is almost back to normal. We are so very thankful to the Lord for answered prayer.

The decision about surgery for the enlarged inferior turbinates in his nose is still pending. The problem persists but he must jump through the insurance hoops to qualify for the surgery. Hopefully this problem can be resolved before the end of the year.

Gerry has also been diagnosed with glaucoma and is now having to put drops in his eyes twice a day. He also had a laser surgery done recently to prevent serious complications from the glaucoma.

I have been experiencing a drop in my platelets since NIH changed my dose of cyclosporine at the beginning of August. They just recently increased the dose and I hope to see my count increase. I will be going to NIH November 17<sup>th</sup> for my annual appointment. I will have lots of blood drawn and a bone marrow biopsy.

Even with these health nuisances, we are thankful that God gives us strength to do the things he has given us to do each day.

*Thank you!*

Thank you for all your prayers for our family. They are a blessing and strength to us. Your encouraging emails, letters and Facebook comments bless us so much and help us feel connected even though many miles separate us.

*Wishing you and yours a very Happy Thanksgiving! May you be filled with joy and gladness as you reflect on God's many blessings – especially His love manifested through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*

*With love and blessings,*

*Gerry & Denise*

**Financial support and correspondence may be sent to:**  
Gerry & Denise Beauchemin 8801 Boca Chica #45 Brownville, TX 78521  
For tax deductible donations please email us for information.  
Phone (956) 831- 9011 Email: gerrydenise@yahoo.com