



Chupplink to You

Lessons on Leadership: Always in School

September has come and our four children began studies again, two at home (Kayla and Ashley) and two at boarding school (Steven and Melody). With the return this month of Dr. Russ White from the US, the plan was to hand back over the Medical Superintendent role to Russ. Russ and I (Mike) have worked together at Tenwek in the surgery department and otherwise since 1997. I have been “pinch hitting” in an Acting capacity for this past year. After several meetings together and with Tenwek administrative leadership, we decided that I would carry on in that role (Medical Superintendent) and Russ would focus on leadership in the surgery department and in our medical education efforts.



These discussions have led to a lot of soul searching for me and prayer to seek God's will and plan for the near future in our ministry here at Tenwek. It has also led to discussions on ways that I have been successful in leadership and in ways that I can do better in serving the medical and nursing staff. Having had this re-

sponsibility before (totaling six years) I have come to realize that, just as my children are in school, so am I! No amount of experience or previous success in leadership guarantees that we have wisdom or strength to handle every new challenge. Sometimes I can fail in an area that I previously thought was a strength!

Effective communication and understanding with staff in a cross-cultural and cross-professional setting like Tenwek Hospital are sometimes elusive. As Russ and I have talked about the challenges involved in leading the medical services at Tenwek, we are both keenly aware that without a humble heart that listens, we are doomed to fail. Humility and the capacity to listen thoughtfully: not qualities that this surgeon gets straight A's in! I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to serve the medical staff at Tenwek this past year as Medical Director. If the hospital board agrees then I will continue to do so in the future. I need your prayers that each day God's Holy Spirit (my ever present instructor) will guide and guard my thoughts, words, and actions so that the people who need Christ's touch, whether staff, patients, or their families, will not be side-tracked by failed exams that God gives to the Medical Superintendent at Tenwek Hospital!

Getting oxygen to every patient who needs it

Oxygen is a critical need for many Tenwek patients and we are blessed with two large oxygen generators which can supply the entire hospital complex. The problem is that the number of outlets in most wards is too few and patients actually share the same outlet in several wards. In nursery sometimes babies are three to one outlet. To remedy this problem, we have contracted Kenya Medical Engineering to pipe oxygen

(and suction) throughout the hospital and provide modern outlets in the wards for patients. We have completed half of the project to date, but have had to stop because of lack of funds. We still lack about \$40,000 to get piping to the maternity wing and nursery, our emergency dept., part of our operating suite, and the fixtures required for the patient points in these units. This amount also includes the funds

we lack to purchase the attachments for patient points already provided by the newly completed piping. Would you consider helping us with this project to get life giving O2 to patients at Tenwek? If so would you send a check with your gift to the WGM address on the left and attach a note “Tenwek Capital Development: Oxygen project at Tenwek Hospital”? A receipt for tax purposes will be sent to you by WGM. THANK YOU!

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Above: A beautiful venue: The facility for the Toshiba scanner at Tenwek now complete

Below: Dr. John Spriegel, our CT scan project director, is interviewed by the Kenyan press along side the Kenyan Minister for Medical Services, Prof Anyang' Nyong'o, our chief guest on Sept 7th alongside the new Toshiba Aquillion scanner



Mike gives the opening speech at the CT scanner dedication ceremony attended by numerous guests and government officials on Sept 7th. God's CT scan: "Christ's Touch" was Mike's theme.

A Day of GREAT Celebration

On Sept 7th Tenwek hosted a commissioning service for three completed projects: our newly installed Toshiba CT scanner, a newly opened 7 bed High Dependency Unit (HDU), and a 6-unit apartment for our medical trainees at Tenwek who are increasing in number yearly. The Kenyan Minister for Medical Services, Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o was our chief guest and was amazed and impressed with the facilities and staff he met during his first ever visit to Tenwek

Hospital. The event was attended by numerous dignitaries, top church and civic leaders, as well as a senior rep from the Toshiba Corporation in Japan, Mr. Bob Micer, and the President of Assist International, Mr. Bob Pagett, who engineered the approval from Toshiba to give the CT to Tenwek. Our Kenyan and missionary leadership at Tenwek all agreed that the day was focused on giving God the glory. The Honorable Minister even quoted the chorus from "To God be the Glory" (the first song in the

program) in his speech that day! Mike had the opportunity to give the first dedication speech of the day after having led an official tour of the Tenwek Hospital facilities for the Minister and his team that day. It was great exposure for Tenwek among doctors and hospital administrators from our region. The Toshiba executive was so touched by what he saw and experienced at Tenwek that he said he threw away a prepared speech and spoke from his heart. He was deeply moved and actually paused in his speech to compose himself before thanking Tenwek for inviting him to this wonderful event. PTL!

God's CT scanner: Christ's Touch

(an excerpt from Mike's speech on Sept 7th) "I'll conclude my remarks by giving a challenge to all our Tenwek staff: We are celebrating together the addition of a high tech marvel, a Toshiba CT scan, to our list of services offered at Tenwek. This is a great reason to celebrate but with this admonition: High Tech should not replace High Touch at Tenwek Hospital. Tenwek Hospital has been built upon a reputation of being a place where a patient once told Dr. Ernie Steury "the hands are kind". That patient had passed many other hospitals and clinics to come to Tenwek. A different CT scan, Christ's Touch, is the great hope for Kenya, Africa, and the World. Staff member at Tenwek: whenever you see the "CT Scanner" sign over

the new unit remember my challenge NOT to forget the power of God's CT scan: Christ's Touch. It is not only diagnostic, it is also therapeutic! We are His servants and we are qualified to use this CT!"

Please pray with us that God will indeed be glorified and honored by our use of this donated equipment . Pray also that God will touch and change lives using His divine power through our hands at Tenwek.

service" as one of our chief ministries. Please pray with us that God will give our interviewing team wisdom to select true and committed believers with a heart to serve through medicine and surgery to win the lost for Christ.

The season for interviews: Seeking God's men and women

September through November is a time of going through applications and interviewing clinical officers, medical students and medical officers for positions in our medical training programs at Tenwek. Each year we are amazed at how God has prepared Kenyan medical professionals to come for training and

to serve with us in rural south-west Kenya. Nearly 20 training slots will be filled in the next few months and we deeply desire to find God's chosen trainees for these positions. Our mission statement at Tenwek places "training for

service" as one of our chief ministries. Please pray with us that God will give our interviewing team wisdom to select true and committed believers with a heart to serve through medicine and surgery to win the lost for Christ.