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Remember Who is in Control

When everything around us seems out of control, we need to remember who is in control. Through pandemics and quarantines, protests and riots, Democrat and Republican presidents, God remains in control. He always has been and always will be.

But we feel unsettled when our country is in a state of unrest and turmoil. Israel was in unstable times and it was up to Isaiah to remind them who was in control.

Isaiah 40:21-23 says, "Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in. He brings the princes to nothing; He makes the judges of the earth useless."

Ultimately, we know God is in control, but we can't help but think things would be so much better if "our" candidate would win the election. But, do we really want a world run by our petty preferences or by an all-loving and all-knowing sovereign God, who is willing to prove His love by sacrificing His Son for our sakes? Actually, we don't get to choose.

Romans 13:1 says, "Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God."

I, for one, am glad the outcome of the USA doesn't depend on me. Yet God does give us one responsibility that can make a difference.

1 Timothy 2:1-2 says, "Therefore, I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence."

God would have us pray for our leaders. Is praying for our leaders more effective than voting the "right" one in? Definitely! When we vote, we vote for our preferences. When we pray, we pray for God's will and intervention.

Continued on pg 2

PROJECTS

Dave Peiffer, our Cedar Lane board president, and **Carlos** put a new heat pump in our food room. It will both heat and cool the room at a much lower cost. **Dave and Sue Ackley**, also on our board, came over with their family and their church home fellowship group and transformed our old gray storage buildings with a new coat of paint that matches our pole barn. What an upgrade! It looks so much better!

Carlos put new digital lighting in the office and library back in the spring. It looks great and gives much brighter lighting for the rooms. He also put new digital lights and new ceiling tiles in our fellowship room used for missionary get-togethers. Along with the new ceiling he painted the walls and put wainscot paneling up giving the room a more elegant look.

After a huge lightning storm in May took out our internet network, we were fortunate to have already acquired the equipment for our new wireless network system. It took a few days but, we were able to get it up and running so that our missionary families could get back to online schoolwork and communications with their mission fields. Many thanks to **Bruno Couto** for the hours and days of work to get it up and running.

Another project we were thrilled to do was to reestablish walking trails in our wooded area. With COVID-19 keeping our missionaries at home a few families were happy to help create new winding paths through the woods. We appreciated all the great help. The **Ebersole family** were the inspiration to recreate our trails. Their children enjoyed using the old trails while on furlough from Bangladesh. We've actually named and dedicated those trails to that great family.



Work Teams



Most of our Christian school and church work teams were canceled this spring because of COVID-19. **Laurel Hill Bible Church** was still able to send their youth group for a week in July to do work projects. They did a lot of spring cleanup, worked on the trails in the woods and built a 40 foot lean-to on the back of the new pole barn. We've been wanting a place to protect and store the many donated bikes we have for our Cedar Lane families. They did a tremendous job on all their projects!

Covid Update

So far our campus has been Covid-19 free. We asked most of our older volunteers to take a few months off to protect themselves and our medically high risk missionary families. Carlos and I have stopped picking up furniture in people's homes. We have been picking up furniture from porches and garages. Quarantining on our campus has given us more time to work on some projects and upgrades this year.



Cedar Lane Missionary Homes

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Praise and Prayer

Praise the Lord, Harold Ebersole is successfully beating his third cancer. Continue to pray as he and Shawne hope to get back to Bangladesh in the fall.

Praise the Lord for His protection for our missionaries during the pandemic.

Continue to pray for Raymond Thistlethwaite. The pandemic has prevented him from seeing specialists to diagnose his lung problem.

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