

Grace, mercy and peace in our Lord Jesus Christ,

We hope and pray all is well and that the New Year is off to a good start for all of you. Things are going well here. Dory, Caleb and Shiloh are doing well with the exception of the common cold that seems to be going around. But they are doing great in school and are really coming along in their martial arts. I am most thankful for their development in having a heart for God and their knowledge of our Lord Jesus and His word.

We rejoice and are so thankful for the precious people who have become Christians here at Lake Merced. God truly is giving the increase and it's amazing to see how He works in the lives of people. We are very thankful for the Woodell's and the work they are doing here. Wes truly has allowed God to develop and prepare him to be ready to share things with people that really matter. And Airiel is such a wonderful host and mother, always ready to joyfully receive and reach out to the people God sends her way. The Woodell's and the university age Christians are such a wonderful blessing to the church here at Lake Merced. And things are going very well with the church as a whole. We continue to have great Sunday morning Bible classes, assemblies and small groups.

We are continuing to spend quality time every week with new people God has brought our way and also with the long standing members of the church. We continue to meet weekly with the Zamora family and are having weekly studies with their children. Right now we are spending the most time with the older ones in High School who are considering making a decision for Christ. But we also have had some great visits and very meaningful discussions with their parents, John and Laura, who are wonderful Christian people and who we hope can stick around and help us in the work here at Lake Merced. We are very thankful for them. We also continue to spend good quality time with Amanda Carter and her two children. They have become very dear to us. Her son Quinton has also come to our weekly Bible studies and is learning about becoming a Christian. I also have had the opportunity to spend some good time with John Choo, a brother who recently moved to the city to manage a tech business. He is very encouraging and passionate when speaking about our Lord and definitely provides a spark when he is around. The Woodell's had him over to lunch after his first Sunday with us and I was able to get together with him that Wednesday night and get to know him. He and John Zamora have both given the Lord's Supper message at church and they both did an outstanding job. We are so thankful that God is bringing so many to us here at Lake Merced and we definitely try and be ready to reach out to people when they come, spend quality time getting to know them and offering them a place to serve and fit in right away.

I continue to teach the Jr. High class on Sunday mornings and after I help lead singing in the assembly, I go with the children to lead the young children's class during the sermon time, unless I'm preaching that Sunday. We put on a Vacation Bible School type atmosphere with puppet shows, fun upbeat Christian songs and surprise visits from "real live Bible characters." Sunday evenings we continue to meet with a small group at the church building. We also meet every Tuesday morning for breakfast. It's always a great time of fellowship. Recently we had several of our new members and visitors join us at

breakfast. It sure helps build the relationships in the church. On Wednesday nights, I just completed a conversational English class with one of the men we met through the International program. John is a serious Buddhist but I think we truly have hit it off and I hope it results in him being willing to truly here the gospel. The other young man from China, Evan, finally passed his driving test that I've been helping him practice for. Wes and Airiel have also done a great job of reaching out to him and now I'm waiting to here from him after his first week of school to see just what his schedule is like so we can begin Bible studies.

We have missed Paul and Noe Crites as they visit Guatemala. Paul Crites has been such a hard worker in the work here and we are always thankful for him and his wonderful wife Noe. We are keeping them in our prayers and hope they are having a great trip and that they have a safe return home.

We did have some very special quests visit this month. Spencer Hemphill and Jacey Kerby visited from Texas. Spencer, whose family has connections with Austin Ave. is planning on moving here in September. Spencer and Jacey were a blast. We had a great time together and are looking forward to him being here in September. Funny enough, while we were giving Spencer the tour around the city, we stopped by the ocean and ended up being interviewed by the local news station about the storms that were about to hit San Francisco. That night, immediately following the Golden Globes, there we were, me and Spencer on TV giving our great wisdom on how to take precaution from the storms.

My girl's basketball team, the Bridgemont Lady Vikings, is now 10-0 and the post season tournament is just around the corner. They are such a blessing and they have come to mean so much to our family. It's also a blessing to pray with them every practice and game and stress the importance of God and Christ and emphasize doing all things for the glory of God. This has been a great experience and outreach. I also am thankful for my freshman Bible class at Bridgemont. I have the opportunity to teach San Francisco youth from all kinds of backgrounds. I teach the word of God week in and week out to these young people and they are listening. I pray that God opens their hearts to hear, understand and receive the message of Christ.

Thank you all so much for your support. Although there have been many challenges the past three years, we will forever be thankful that we were blessed with the opportunity to serve in this great work that in my opinion has been truly worth it and is more than headed in the right direction. The Lord has a great church here at Lake Merced in the city of San Francisco, CA that I believe has the vision and faith to allow God to continue to lead the way, reach the lost and make disciples that truly reflect the love and truth of God in Christ. And I hope you always realize how important of a part you've played in that.

Thank you again and God bless,

Paul, Dory, Caleb and Shiloh Fletcher



Me and Spencer at Muir Woods



Lady Vikings 10-0