



Shortly after the writing of my last letter we heard of the passing of OM's Founder George Verwer on April the 14th. George was faithful to the end in his preaching of the gospel and wanting to see people following the Lord. George visited the OM Office in Tyrone last September and we enjoyed the time he spent with us. He will be greatly missed. Pray for his wife and children as they adjust to life without him.

Family Update

There have been several changes/additions to my job over the last couple of months. I have taken on the bookkeeping for the Catalytic Ministries Area of OM. Initially I thought this would be a temporary thing, but have since decided I would like to keep this "side job". It gives me opportunities to serve a small number of people who work in many different parts of the world in a wide variety of ministries.

My small team of 3 has seen some change as our leader has decided to move to Canada for at least the next 9 months or so. This makes meetings and collaboration on projects just that little bit more challenging. We continue to serve the other departments in the Tyrone office with the systems we keep running.

Over the next couple of months I



will be attending a conference in Orlando, FL sponsored by one of our program providers and then taking a 3 week training course through OM's training module called Effective Online Design. This course is intended to help you write and develop online training courses. We are hoping this can be useful in our office and possibly other OM fields in training people on using our different computer systems.

Tom has been working hard at his new job (which is not so new anymore). He is kept pretty busy with work in the garage along with the parts manager things he needs to do. It seems that he is the one who gets the weird jobs that need to be done. Like replacing a wiring harness that eventually required removing the engine. Working on a right hand drive Japanese vehicle that no one has ever seen before. Then he also gets some of the more simple jobs as well—replacing window motors and other smaller items. He has been assisting the other guys in the shop when they need another pair of hands or they get a vehicle in the shop that is having an issue that is not easily diagnosed. I think I can safely say he is enjoying what he is doing—some days are hard especially in the heat of the summer.

Quick Update on the girls

Abby – Started her Sophomore year at Kennesaw State University. She is excited to be in her first graphic design concentration class—typography. She was recently home for her company's 20th anniversary party where she was able to meet her direct boss—who works from Brooklyn, NY. They have worked together since Abby began her internship in high school and this was their first opportunity to meet in person. She also received many positive and encouraging remarks from coworkers and a few clients she has worked with. She is enjoying the work that she is doing with Country Fried Creative.

Amanda – Has been very busy after her short summer break. She was able to travel with Abby and I up to Chicago and then on the Michigan for a couple of weeks. Since then she has been preparing for Fall sports. Those sports have begun now and she is now traveling with both soccer and volleyball, although she is not able to be in 2 places at once. She is finding her job to be a challenge, but also a bit overwhelming at times with all that needs to be accomplished. They don't really have enough people to cover all that they do.

Praise:

- JANICE—WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO GET OUR NEW PROGRAM UP AND RUNNING SAVING THE ORGANIZATION A LOT OF MONEY.
- TOM—GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIPS.
- AMANDA—ENJOYING HER JOB IN TX WITH COACHES & ATHLETES. DOING WELL LIVING ON HER OWN BUT STILL HOMESICK ONCE IN AWHILE.
- ABBY—SOPHOMORE YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER HAS STARTED WELL AND SHE IS BACK IN THE RHYTHM OF SCHOOL.

Prayer Requests:

- JANICE—ANTICIPATING THE NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS WILL HAVE SOME TIME COMMITMENTS AND I MAY NEED TO BALANCE MY TIME DIFFERENTLY.
- TOM—STAMINA AS TEMPERATURES ARE STILL HIGH.
- AMANDA—WISDOM IN SOLVING PROBLEMS. CARITY FOR THE FUTURE (STAY OR GO). THAT SHE WOULD BE ABLE TO DO A GOOD JOB AND STILL HAVE A PERSONAL LIFE.
- ABBY—SHE WOULD CONTINUE TO DO WELL IN HER CLASSES THIS SEMESTER WITHOUT FEELING OVERLOADED.

The following story is from a Catalytic Ministry called Business 4 Transformation (B4T). B4T is one of many ministries under the Catalytic umbrella in OM. I hope to be sharing more stories in the coming months of God's work in these many different areas around the globe.

Beatrice & The Bread of Life

This is a story shared with us by Business 4 Transformation, an OM ministry affectionately known as B4T. Jakes Naude, leader of B4T, says that the story of Beatrice is the most beautiful story on the continent of Africa.

We enter the story in 2019, when several B4T team members visited a city called Kumasi in Ghana. There they met Beatrice, a woman of God, an entrepreneur, and wife of a pastor.



Beatrice grew up in a family that had a baking business. When her own family needed income, she turned to what was natural and started her own bakery.

When Beatrice started her bakery she also had a deep desire to solve a problem in her city. You see, thousands of young women flock to Kumasi every year from the north, fleeing poverty and hoping to build a better life. Many of these women, desperate to survive, end up dealing drugs or selling their bodies on the streets. Beatrice had two hopes for her bakery – she wanted it to be profitable and she wanted to employ refugee women.

To reach Beatrice's bakery you must journey to downtown Kumasi – you park your car in the street outside the slum, carefully cross a narrow, dirty river, and walk down a dirt road for a few hundred yards as a swarm of children swirl around you. Eventually you reach a large tin-roofed building that, from the outside, doesn't look like much. Step inside and you enter a totally different world.

As soon as you walk through the door you can feel the heat from four huge clay ovens and the smell of freshly baked bread wraps around you. The space is buzzing with activity as, over here, workers feed the ovens with pans with bread dough and, over here, others pack fresh loaves into plastic bags, and over here a group of ladies clean baking pans to be ready for the next batch of dough.

Beatrice meets us with a friendly face as we walk in. She's been running the bakery for four years now, baking about 3,000 loaves of bread a day with her team of 33 ladies.

Beatrice tells us that her dream of employing women fleeing poverty in the North has come true. In 2019 she provided work for 30 saleswomen, selling her bread to them at wholesale prices. The women then sell the bread in the streets around the city for a small profit, enough to feed and clothe themselves. For women who are new to the city and the sales team, Beatrice provides safe accommodation until they are on their feet.

Beatrice and her bakery are life-giving for many people in Kumasi, sustaining her family with its income, employing 33 families with the work of making loaves, feeding 3,000 families a day with beautiful, fresh bread, and providing 30 vulnerable young women with a home and dignity as they build a new life out of nothing. The love and leadership of Beatrice speaks volumes as she proclaims Jesus as the Bread of Life in her community. Beatrice shared in 2019 that over the past two years, six young women came to know the Lord.

When B4T met Beatrice in 2019, she had a dream to grow the impact of her business even more – she asked B4T for coaching and investment to expand her business, which would enable her to feed and rent rooms to 60 more young women. B4T introduced Beatrice to Sue, a Canadian investor and former OMer. Sue talks about her experience investing in Beatrice with tears in her eyes. Any guesses as to what Sue's middle name is? It's Beatrice.



With Sue's investment, over the next year Beatrice grew her bakery team of 60 to more than 100. Twenty-two of these women came to know Jesus as they interacted with Beatrice and the bakery team.

The bakery's story took a turn in 2020 as Covid lockdowns dropped sales significantly and then again in 2022 when the war in Ukraine sent the price of wheat through the roof. These challenges were devastating for the bakery, forcing Beatrice to lay off many of her staff and scale back dramatically.

But the story isn't over. Over the past year, Beatrice's business has slowly recovered. B4T provided the bakery with a top-up loan last year and Beatrice hopes that by the end of this year the bakery will be back on track.

Will you celebrate with me the life-giving power of thousands of loaves of bread in the hands of a woman named Beatrice. A woman being God's image, bringing God's kingdom, in the streets of Kumasi as she bakes, blesses, employs, sells, harbors, loves, and proclaims.

**Thank you for standing with us as we
serve in all these different ways.**

Tom, Janice & Abby Paver
110 Irish Lane
Tyrone, GA 30290

Janice: 678-877-5981

Janice's Email: janice.paver@om.org

Janice Paver
For all of the Pavers