

# “Northwestern Ontario News”

Update and Prayer Letter from the Rasmussens, your missionaries to NW Ontario

II Timothy 1:7, “For God hath not given us the spirit of fear. . .” March 2021

## We have been blessed:

1. God’s Protection and provision
2. The open door and privilege of working on the reserve.
3. God’s protection on our distant family.
4. That God is in control of all things.

## We ask prayer for:

1. Trust between us and the first nations people on the reserve
2. Deb’s internship for school and citizenship papers.
3. Home situations of kids that attend the safe zone program.
4. Bible Institute

**SAFE ZONE PROGRAM:** Here we go again!? Beginning, March 15<sup>th</sup>, this area went into the Red Zone, mainly because there are Covid cases in the surrounding areas. I was able to talk with a Town Council member about the gathering restrictions. I was told that since we built our addition as a meeting place, we can have 30% in our place, so we can have the kids come again this week if the parents agree. The kids will be happy. Two of the girls have started back to school just because they want to come to ‘safe zone’. Sometimes it feels like we take one step forward and two steps back, but we just keep stepping forward. **Then**, this past Thursday, one of our afterschool kids tested positive for Covid. Fortunately, that child hasn’t been to school or to our house in the last 2+ weeks, so we are at a low risk of exposure.

**MISHKEEGOGAMANG:** We had to cancel services at the “red roof” church for two Sundays because the reserve was on partial lockdown as a result of a funeral and the out-of-town guests. We did this out of respect for the Chief and council, but, we were able to have services these past two Sundays.

Attendance runs around 15+. It is exciting to see people come faithfully. Please pray for us as we endeavor to move forward in establishing relationships and trust and eventually organize a group of believers as a church body. There was a discussion about fixing up the building and making a place for kids. So, today, Pastor Moore and his son came to fix the roof of the church that had been damaged in a storm more than a year ago but was never repaired.



Also, there are plans to clean out one of two small rooms that are used for storage so the youngest ones can have Sunday School Class. That would definitely help with distractions. Cindy’s always enjoys the kids.

**Just as a side note:** the ojibwe word for church is translated, ‘house of prayer’. This “red roof” church was dedicated many years ago out of respect for a couple of elders and given the name, “House of Prayer”. So, we will honor that and refer to the church as such.

Last week was vaccine week here. Both Bob and Deborah received the second dose and I got my first one. Because we work with First Nation’s people and kids, we feel it’s necessary to take all the measures to protect the community. Bob was sick a couple of days with flu like symptoms. Deb and I had just very sore arms. Cindy will get her second shot later. We need to remind believers and non-believers that God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.” So, then, it’s the evil One who spreads the fear because fear has torment. Don’t let the Evil One win in our hearts.



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