Palm Island August 2015

Quite a lot has taken place here on Palm since our last report and most of it has been positive.  We are at last residing in the old Prison, which makes it a lot easier to continue with the rest of the work that needs to be completed to have our new venue operational.  God has blessed us in so many ways and we give all thanks and praise to Him as he has showed us that if we just depend on Him and His perfect timing, all will work for the good of others and His Glory.

One of the blessings from above has been to have our sister and brother-in- law here for 4 weeks to work and support us with their generous donations that have supplied many of the necessities needed to have a livable and hygienic venue for this mission.

This is not new to them as they have had other projects that they have helped with in the past, but they like to remain as silent partners in Christ’s work and we have thanked them on behalf of the MMTI Board and for the personal support they have given us both.  They went to Hervey Bay on their way to Townsville, to our home there and loaded up their van with all the things we couldn’t bring back ourselves and then brought it over on the barge which saved us much worry and cost.  We continue to thank God for His wonderful foresight in our needs, not our wants.

While we finish the physical work here it has still been possible to continue with the Bible studies during the week and now we can run our Church from here, which seems to be enjoyed and appreciated by all.  This week we hope to start our Friday night vespers for the children and whoever else would like to join us for the singing, Bible stories and a light meal.

The craft and sewing classes at Ferdys Haven are going well and it has been surprising how talented some of the local women are and how they enjoy making things and completing the projects.   We are still involved in the juicing and nutrition mornings at Ferdy’s and it is going well and now the ladies from Solis well-being, who have been attending our juicing at Ferdy’s have asked if we will do the same there if we can work a time suitable to both.  Of course, we have said we would be happy to do this and will be following this up with the management.

We have huge support for anything we plan to run here for children and as soon as possible we will be starting the Saturday night film and /or games nights as the hold up has been securing some of the rooms suitably.

A lot of time has been taken up with cooking healthy food for the many people on the island that have generously given time and resources to help.  We have made soups and homemade bread for the boys at the Q-Build Depo. who have helped us paint on their days off and the council workers have gone the extra mile to make sure our boys have had tools and supplies that they had in excess and also advice to make it possible for many jobs we saw as impossible to become a possibility.    We now know what their favourites are and it is a very cheap price to pay and their friendship is priceless and we jump at the chance to introduce our healthy meat-free foods.

There is much more to tell and many more pictures but when I tried it would only accept 3 or 4 photos to email.  Keep praying for the beautiful people of this island and for us as we introduce them to the hope and peace that only God can give.

Leon and Neilene