



CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF KOREA

조선의 그리스도인 벗들

October 2014

"I offer water that will become a WELLSPRING within you that gives life throughout eternity. You will never be thirsty again." - John 4:14 (The Voice)



"You came all the way to build the water system for us. Thank you so much (with a series of 90° bows). Now I can grow more vegetables each season." - Sariwon TB Rest Home Staff Member

Fall Technical Trip, 2014

From September 20 – October 9, CFK made our third extended visit to DPRK for 2014. Our purpose this time was to install new water systems at two care centers, to conduct training on tractor/motorcycle/tri-motorcycle vehicle maintenance and repair, to inspect several renovation projects that were in process, and to prepare for our upcoming November visit to DPRK.

Our final trip approval was very late in coming for this trip, and we were really grateful for the flexibility and faith shown by our team to go ahead despite the uncertainty. We were deeply blessed to see God's provision in our work in many ways.

We arrived into Pyongyang late on a Saturday afternoon, rested and worshipped with local believers on Sunday, and then spent our first work day gathering the project materials from our warehouse and tools from our containers. We have 3 sea containers at the Central TB Prevention Hospital that provide secure storage when we are not in the country.

Small Engine Repair / Maintenance Workshop

We stopped into the North Hwanghae TB Hospital (in Sariwon), to drop off James Linton who spent several days with our team this time to lead a 2-day workshop on small engine repair and maintenance with about 17 hospital/rest home directors/staff who had gathered there



James Linton being introduced to hospital and rest home staff gathered for a workshop on small engine care.

from many of our rural care centers. James did both lecture and hands-on training (in Korean), and we gained

valuable understanding of local conditions and needs. We were also able to see new roofing that had been recently installed at the pediatric ward of this hospital as a result of CFK's support.



A new roof has been installed at North Hwanghae #3 Tuberculosis Hospital.

Solar-Powered, Gravity-Fed Clean Water Projects

The following day, we drove to Sariwon TB Rest Home to walk the project and mark all the digging that would need to take place for this system installation. We agreed to install 11 hydrants at this facility, as well as set a new pump, solar panels, and a large 10 Ton water storage tank. Our team mapped out where all the trenching would need to be dug (1 meter deep) in order to lay all the water lines so digging could start right away.

From there, we made the 2.5 hour drive on rough roads to Changyon TB Rest Home – located on the far West Coast, to walk that project with local staff and lay out all the trenching that would be needed there. This rest home is located on the sea coast, and until now, they



The CFK team and rest home staff walk together to mark a path for the trenching needed at Changyon TB Rest Home.

have had to take their tractor and trailer down a hillside, across a valley and up another hillside 2x/day to hand dip water from a spring into a 250 liter barrel in order to supply water for this rest home that cares for _____ patients. This job required digging more than 1km of trenching (1 meter deep) – so we needed to lay out the job for them so that they could start digging during the week we were working on the project at Sariwon. We jointly estimated it would take upwards of 150 people digging trenching for several days to complete the project. After outlining the job, we drove the 2.5 hour jolting ride back to Sariwon, where we would spend the rest of the week working on the water system for the TB rest home there.



Tank installation at Sariwon #3 TB Rest Home

The next morning when we arrived at Sariwon, much of the digging was well underway, so our work began with setting the tank up on the hill and setting the posts for the solar panels. The next day brought more progress as we installed the pump into the well, assembled the solar panels, and began to assemble the hydrants and install the pipe.

While most of the team stayed on sight, I made a trip back to Pyongyang to collect more needed materials from our containers/warehouse, and also stopped at the Hwangju TB Rest Home to inspect the completion of a new MDR TB Ward at this facility, supported by CFK. This place has been completely transformed by our partnership efforts.

On our last full working day at Sariwon TB Rest Home, we finished all the frost-free hydrant installations, completed the wiring to the tank and control box, and late in the afternoon hit the switch activating the system. What excitement there was as the solar panels provided



New Multi-drug Resistant patient ward at Hwangju #3 TB Rest Home under construction in May 2014 (left).

Completed (below)



power to the pump and began to charge the system with cold, clean water! As the water began to fill up the lines, the various hydrants were tried one by one. The joy and amazement on many faces was priceless! There were two women working in the kitchen, one of whom we had observed all week filling buckets and carrying water from the hand-pump to the kitchen – more than 150 feet away. When the outlet in the kitchen poured forth water, the one woman joyously said to the other, “With all this water, now you will hardly have any work to do!”



A member of the Sariwon TB Rest Home kitchen staff carried buckets numerous times a day back and forth from the water well to the kitchen (left). The kitchen staff happily test a newly installed water hydrant inside the kitchen (right) making fetching water a thing of the past!

Solar-Powered Lighting

This time, we also installed a small solar-powered lighting system at several places – to give light to those places

that get little to no electricity. The system includes a solar panel, control box, motorcycle battery, charging outlets, 2 permanent lights/cable, and rechargeable portable lanterns. We decided to install one system at Sariwon TB Rest Home since they are mostly “off grid”. We put the permanent lights into the director’s office – and as we prepared to depart later one evening, they lit up the entire room. The next day, when we came back to check on things, the director said with a big smile that he stayed up past midnight – *“...I wanted and wished to work at night but I did not have enough light. Now I have two lamps from the solar power, I am going to work hard for this rest home. Thank you!”*



CFK board member, Mr. Rick Armstrong stands with the director of Sariwon #3 TB Rest Home after installing a solar lighting system in his office. Mr. Armstrong is also the engineer and designer of the solar power systems.

As the project came to completion, we gathered all the staff, patients, and representatives from the nearby homes for a brief orientation on the use and maintenance of the system and were able to share with them that this system was made possible by hundreds of Korean-American young people from different churches in Irvine, CA who came together to pray and raise support so that they might know of God’s love for them, and receive healing through the provision of clean, abundant



CFK director, Mrs. Heidi Linton shares with rest home staff, patients and local officials about the donors who made this water project possible.

water. Many staff and patients went out of their way to express their delight and sincere gratitude for the new water system, and we look forward to returning to this facility in the future to see the changes that will be possible as a result of abundant clean water.

Early on Monday morning, Sept 29 our team split and I returned to Pyongyang to meet with the National TB Reference Lab staff and to visit the Pyongyang #2 (Hepatitis) Hospital. We sent roofing materials here for this hospital to replace their large and leaky roof, and the re-roofing was well underway. We also discussed with them our November plans, including a pilot hepatitis-B survey and vaccination program for health care workers at our supported hepatitis facilities. I also gathered additional materials from our container and warehouse needed for the job at Changyon.



New roofing material provided by CFK is being installed at Pyongyang #2 Hepatitis Hospital.

I departed on the 30th in order to deliver a couple of workshops on CFK's activities at a conference held in Seoul, leaving our team of 5 behind to complete the work at Changyon and make minor repairs to other systems.

STORY of CHANGYON and remaining time in DPRK by Tech Team (David Won Kim)

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Doctor's Kit Assembly in Black Mountain, NC

On Saturday, September 13, we were blessed with 10 youth and 2 adults from Myers Park Presbyterian confirmation group in Charlotte, NC. They volunteered two and a half hours of their time to help assemble over 100 doctor's kits that will be shipped to the staff at our supported facilities in North Korea. These kits provide the basic tools necessary for medical personnel to carry out their vital work.



We are tremendously grateful for

Myers Park Presbyterian confirmation group forms an assembly line to add items to each Doctor's Kit.

a new relationship with the Asheville Youth Mission (AYM). AYM helps connect volunteer groups with our Black Mountain facility, giving CFK the opportunity to include youth in our ministry. We had a great day of hard work, laughter, and prayer. We pray that the youth of this year's Myers Park Presbyterian confirmation group will grow in their walk with Christ and represent God's love among their peers, families, and communities.



Myers Park Presbyterian confirmation group pose with Doctor's Kits they helped assemble.

Seoul, South Korea

The conference in Seoul gathered Christians from many parts of the world who share a keen interest in the work of God on the Korean Peninsula. It brought together on-the-ground workers, as well as pastors, supporters, and interested people to worship together, pray together, and learn together about both the challenges and opportunities already open for Christian work in and around North Korea. I was both encouraged by the heart and dedication of fellow workers, and sobered by the changing atmosphere in South Korea that is resulting in disinterest and falling support for DPRK-related work. While the door remains largely closed for South Koreans to engage directly with North Koreans, the door is very much open for diaspora Koreans and non-Koreans to work in North Korea. There is a huge opportunity for Korean churches to work and partner humbly together with those who can engage directly – yet many are reluctant to do so if they cannot work directly on their own. We continue to pray that God will draw the body of Christ to work humbly together with one another, and thereby reflect more fully His grace and love towards the North Korean people.

This year's Doctor's Kits were supported by One Vision International and many private donors. Enough supplies and funds were available this year for Nurse's

Kits as well, which will be assembled and shipped with the Doctor's Kits later this Fall.

November Trip Activities

CFK plans to return to DPRK from November 4 – 22, 2014 to complete our activities for this year. The November scope of work includes:

- Pilot survey/HepB vaccination for health care workers.
- Further training in TB and clinical diagnostic methods at the National TB Reference Lab in partnership with Stanford University and other expert volunteers.
- Confirming visits to upwards of 25 care centers to check on shipments, the new water systems, renovation projects currently underway, etc.

We Need Your Help!

CFK's general fund supports our day to day activities, shipping costs, some travel and project costs, and other expenses. Without regular contributions given to CFK's general fund, the work we do would not be able to continue. One way general funds are used is to support 6-8 shipments a year of canned meat, medicine, and other donated goods. This meat is distributed quarterly and satisfies 40 -70 % of the daily protein needs for the staff and patients at our 30 supported facilities -many of whom are malnourished and would otherwise only receive protein on three or four major holidays in any given year. The funds for shipments like these come out of CFK's general fund. Shipping costs for shipments of meat are close to \$30,000 a year. A donation of just \$1,000 from a family, youth group, church, or group of friends, can help provide the patients at one health care facility with the protein they need to help rebuild their health. Thank you for your faithful support of CFK's general fund that strengthens and enables CFK's life-giving work. We pray that by partnering together our work can expand as we begin our 20th year of service in the DPRK!



Pump installation for the gravity-fed water system at Sariwon #3 TB Rest Home.



Secure storage for supplies and tools for CFK at the Central TB Prevention Hospital.

CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF KOREA

Christian Friends of Korea is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization founded in 1995 to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through humanitarian, educational, and religious programs. Contributions to CFK are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. CFK also accepts stock or in-kind donations. Please make all checks payable to "Christian Friends of Korea."

If you are interested in supporting the work of CFK or to request information or materials, please contact us.

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