

MARCH 2014

# THE SCEARCES



## Greetings from the Wintery North!

Wow, it's been quite a while since I last wrote. I keep waiting for life to settle down before sending out an update, but there seems to be something new at every turn. Here we are already in March 2014, so I decided to pause and do it now. Let's dive in and I'll fill you in on what's been happening in our corner of the world.

### PIONEERS

I continue to work as the administrator of the Mobilization (recruiting) team. I work with our six facilitators (recruiters) as they represent the mission at churches, conferences, and schools. Part of my job is to handle the logistics of registering for all conference/school/church events and to make sure the recruiters have all the materials and details that they need for representing Pioneers. The recruiting season lasts from September to May.

Another part of my job is working with our missionary candidates—those who have expressed an interest in joining Pioneers in taking the gospel to the most unreached. When they contact us, either through our website or at a conference, I walk with them as I receive their application documents, references, testing, etc., until they are ready to come to our candidate orientation program. Orientation is a five-day training event held at our office at least twice each year. We teach various workshops on support raising, security, expectations, spiritual warfare, finances, and more. Here's what one of our newest missionary appointees had to say about the orientation — “Through this training, I've grasped the bigger picture of what missions is all about and how Pioneers is involved in mobilizing people to reach the lost world. It was encouraging to see and hear the hearts of other candidates on how God has led them into missions and their passion to reach the unreached!”

My most recent work assignment is to convert all our existing forms and applications to fillable forms—quite a daunting task. I’m learning the software program and will hopefully have this completed by the end of the year.

Hopefully that gives you a glimpse into what my days look like. I love what I do at Pioneers and the entire team of over twenty is like family. This June will mark the 25th anniversary of my being a member of Pioneers—how time flies and how blessed I am to be part of such a wonderful organization.

To the right is our latest info graphic that gives vital statistics about the work of Pioneers. God has certainly blessed this ministry since its beginning in 1979.



Our newest candidates from November

## FAMILY NEWS

The biggest event of the year was Caleb’s wedding on July 19, 2013. He married his long-time sweetheart Kirsten Butler. We were very blessed to have friends and family from the US here with us for the special day, and Donnie was privileged to marry them. It was a gorgeous day and they were married in a local park in front of a gazebo surrounded by beautiful flowers and shade trees. They currently live in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario (8 hours north) and they are both attending school as well as working part-time. They will both graduate in April—Caleb with a welding diploma and Kirsten with a diploma as a Personal Support Worker. We are so excited that they will be moving back to this area after graduation, to hopefully find jobs and get settled.

## PIONEERS AT A GLANCE

Vital stats about the global work of Pioneers



RELIGIOUS BLOCs AMONG WHICH PIONEERS ARE WORKING

1	Muslim	52%
2	Other	11%
3	Buddhist	8%
4	Catholic	8%
5	Tribal/Animist	7%
6	Hindu	6%
7	Nonreligious/Secular	5%
8	Chinese Traditional	3%

**2660**

PIONEERS MEMBERS WORLDWIDE

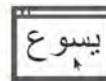
**18** OFFICES & BASES **278** TEAMS

**187**

PEOPLE GROUPS WITH PIONEERS TEAMS

**101** COUNTRIES **137** LANGUAGES

AREA OF FOCUS: MEDIA



**3.6million**

Visits to our all-Arabic outreach websites (Jan–Sept 2013)



**135,363**

Bibles, films and Christian books downloaded (Jan–Sept 2013)

AREA OF FOCUS: TRAINING

**250** new missionaries appointed by the end of 2013

**400** missionaries and nationals to be trained in church-planting movements (CPM) during 2013

**1,000** additional nationals equipped by those trained in church-planting movement events in 2013

**350** Bible studies with groups of Muslim seekers started by church-planting movement trained workers



Joshua continues to live in the bustling city of Toronto (population 2.8 million), and will finish his undergraduate studies in August with an honours degree in Linguistics and Spanish from University of Toronto. He hopes to get into the Speech Language Pathology Masters Program for next fall and is currently working full-time at a local theatre. We are so glad that Toronto is only two hours away and that we get to see him frequently.

Donnie is now in his third year as Lead Pastor at North Park Community Church ([www.northpark.ca](http://www.northpark.ca)). It is quite a challenging role to provide leadership and direction for a team of twelve pastors and many support staff. Each weekend there are four services, one on Saturday night and three on Sunday morning. Needless to say, our weekends are very full. Physically, he continues to struggle with severe migraines, sometimes as often as three times a week. He is on medication but it seems to be growing less and less effective. He has recently seen a specialist who ordered two special MRIs, and those results were normal. The next diagnostic procedure is a spinal tap in early April. If that is normal, they may be able to treat him with injections at the trigger points to relieve the pain—please pray that there will be an accurate diagnosis and that he will get relief soon.

As for me, some of you may not know that I was diagnosed with breast cancer last June, just three weeks before Caleb and Kirsten's wedding! Preparing for the wedding was a blessing to keep me busy. A routine mammogram discovered it, and although it was detected relatively early, it was also extensive, so a mastectomy was necessary. The surgery went well and they removed four lymph nodes for evaluation. After a three week wait (which seemed like an eternity), the pathology report came back—all was clear! The next step was to meet with the oncologist to discuss treatment. We were so thrilled to learn that I needed no chemo or radiation. The only treatment option was a hormone drug for five years to prevent recurrence. However, the oncologist felt that my having diabetes for so long presented more of a risk than a benefit in taking the drug, so I was advised to "Go live your life." I will continue with follow-up appointments for five years. God was so very real and present with us during those days, and continues to show himself faithful no matter what the circumstances are. We are so grateful for God's healing, and for all the prayers, love and support we received from so many near and far.



## AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU

As you may know, I am required to raise and maintain my own support for this ministry. Many of you have been faithful in financially supporting me, and I am so grateful for your generosity. However, I currently have a deficit of \$4,000 in my account and I am at 65% of my recommended salary that has to be raised. Would you please pray about becoming a partner with me in this way? I have included a letter from our Executive Director concerning my support that may be helpful to you. I am asking God to raise up new monthly supporters to maintain my account at the recommended level, as well as one-time gifts to offset the deficit. Thank you so much for considering partnering with me in this important ministry. Please see the response form on the next page for giving options and instructions.

I have also been so blessed by so many of you who pray regularly. If you're interested in joining as a prayer partner, please send me an email letting me know--I'd love to hear from you and pray for you as well. Thank you!

## CONTACT INFO

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Home phone - 519-268-1856

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Donnie - [dlscearce@gmail.com](mailto:dlscearce@gmail.com)

## Praise Items

- God's daily grace and strength
- God's constant reminders of His love for us
- Great community of friends who love and encourage us
- Beth's physical healing and renewed strength
- Good medical care and caring doctors
- Pioneers steady growth
- Faithful financial and prayer supporters

## Prayer Requests

- For discipline in spending time with God in study and prayer
- For continued good diabetes management
- For an accurate diagnosis and successful treatment of Donnie's migraines
- For wisdom in setting boundaries and making important decisions in such a busy season of life
- For God to raise up new financial supporters in order for Beth to continue in her role at Pioneers



Canadian Account 10840

US Account 130039

Yes Beth, I want to partner with you in the following way:

Monthly support: \_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$75 \_\_\_ \$100 starting \_\_\_\_\_ One time gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Skype name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Province/State \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to give using Electronic Funds Transfer each month. Please send the form (also available online).

I would like to give by credit card

\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_ American Express Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date (mm/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

If sending a cheque, please make it payable only to PIONEERS and leave the memo line blank.

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(US): 10123 William Carey Dr. Orlando FL 32832 (407) 382-6000 website: [www.pioneers.org](http://www.pioneers.org)