



Speaking Hope to the World

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"It's moving day!" After 264 days of being displaced, the staff of TWR Women of Hope heard those exciting words. TWR passed the final inspection to occupy the rebuilt part of our offices.

Since the fire on December 22nd, our team had been in temporary cubicles in the building's dining room. It was noisy at times and made for a challenging work environment. Now we're in a brand new bright area. The team was allowed to have a say in the design of our workspace, so it's custom made for us. We are so appreciative!



Valerie: I'm preparing for a trip to Bratislava, Slovakia. (When you read this, I will have returned.) I'm attending TWR Women of Hope's first "Unite" conference September 25-28. The design of our logo represents how we seek to have God *unite* our hearts to him and to each other. That's the purpose of this conference: to *unite* the hearts of our teams in Europe, Central Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, to each other and to God. We expect 60 participants at the conference.

I will take advantage of so many of our teams being in attendance by bringing a "portable studio" to do some recording. Many attendees will voice segments of the November Audio Prayer Calendar. I also plan to record testimonies and stories to use for future TWR programs.

Recording in a non-studio setting will be a "first" for me. The other audio technicians at our office have been giving me a crash course on the best ways to set up and record in a hotel room. I've received training on how to hand hold a microphone to record two or more people. Did you know there's an actual technique to doing that without making any rustling noises?



Portable studio practice with willing helper



Cassius: For the last several months, I've been the project manager for the final completion of our reconstruction project at the Cary office. Many of our personnel had relocated to various places around the building during the reconstruction and restoration process. Coordinating the installation of the replacement cubicles throughout the building was a big effort. Because of departments moving in and out of temporary space it created a "domino effect."

The final step was to get all the inspections completed so we could get a certificate of occupancy from the Town of Cary. You might think this would all fall into place easily but the inspectors were quite meticulous and demanding.

In early September the last domino fell and caused a near-seismic event: we finally received permission for our staff to move into the new office spaces! Moving day was quite interesting. Because so many were excited to move, everyone helped. Computers and belongings were moved within an hour! Then the staff just needed to get settled in.

Since the fire, we had been unable to use TWR's dining room and auditorium for staff events. It's a relief that we now have these areas available for meetings again. The photo above shows our global leaders meeting in the newly equipped auditorium.

We are grateful for our insurance company replacing the office cubicles and furniture to eliminate the smell of smoke. Praise God for sustaining the ministry in Cary throughout this year!

Trip to Holy Land

For many years, we've heard friends and colleagues tell us about visiting Israel. We've wondered what it would be like to go – and we're about to find out. Along with two close friends, we have the opportunity to join a guided tour with "One Heart for Israel."

We'll be guided by biblical archaeologist Dr. Kevin Dieckilman. We are looking forward to walking in Jesus' footsteps and experiencing the land of the Bible.



Prayer Items

- For us to grow in grace and in our faith in Jesus,
- That we would encourage our colleagues daily,
- For perseverance and God's encouragement in our work,
- Praise for Valerie's mother's continued good health.

"..to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever." Jude 25, ESV.

In HIS grip,
Cassius & Valerie Smith

Cassius & Valerie

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