



Gerald and Marguerite Pauley
at LA VIEILLE ÉGLISE
THE OLD CHURCH 1840
From Marguerite

We have had setbacks: very bad weather, my continuing problem with inflammation in my legs, the pump for the well gave out, a big communication mistake between us and the church coming to visit, a serious, long and painful illness, a car breakdown, lost keys, tendonitis in my wrists and hands-- A short list! ***But!*** But the Lord helped us through and gave us all success.

As you know, we have been preparing the church building and property to for a future ministry with another couple to head it up. In the meantime, we have worked to be able to receive groups, have VBS, invite the men for a day of fellowship, invite the women for a day of fellowship, etc. The building is large, but the ground floor is only a chapel, a dining room and a kitchen. There is a bathroom and a small office at the back.

At the end of June, **a church contacted us to ask if they could come for a week** in July to help us. There were some young people who wanted to do a mission's trip. Well! That was one of the ministries we wanted to do. But we weren't ready! We had not prepared beds and bathrooms. We had been praying that the Lord would lead us, so we couldn't say no. We wanted to say "next year" but will there be a next year? The obstacles seemed insurmountable, though.

The pastor turned us over to an assistant pastor who makes the arrangements every year for several summer trips. He called us and gave us a date, the 28th of July. **We went to work.**

We rented a storage unit and started moving our clothes and furniture out of the two bedrooms and the office to make room for beds. The bedrooms are up the spiral stairs, so it was a little difficult. We dropped things over the balcony railing and we tied things to ropes and let them down.

The first Saturday, Clément, our go-to young man at the Boucherville church, was able to come down to help. We moved out the queen bed and the double bed. I bought 3 single metal beds and the mattresses from IKEA to replace those beds. Clément, and Jerson (another young man from Boucherville) got them up to the balcony and put them together. We bought a table that opens to 9 feet. We have a small freezer, but we bought a second one.

The youth pastor (and music man) for the church called and said he would be the one bringing the teens, about 12 of them (15 or 16 years old). We talked about everything in detail. He said they would arrive around suppertime on Friday. I thought, "We only have three weeks!" We had 4 single beds, 2 couches and 2 bathrooms. I bought 2 more beds and ordered 2 folding beds from Wayfare (They are great! They don't have to be put together. They fold out--very sturdy.) We bought mattresses from IKEA.

Then the pump for the well went out. The company we called came immediately saying that for their company, all problems with water are urgent. They had to dig because the pump was under-ground and we didn't know exactly where it was. A day later, we had a new pump. It worked well and we had a good flow of water.

**Then disaster
struck!**



Gerald said, "Look at this rash. What do you think caused it?" A wide streak of small blisters went around all the way from the middle of his stomach to his spine. We went immediately to the emergency clinic at Boucherville, to our doctor (45 minutes), but she couldn't see us until the next morning.

We returned home and went back the next morning. By that time, he had blisters on the blisters and his skin was on fire. Dr. Brunet took one look and said "**shingles**". I was so sure that the Lord wouldn't let anything go wrong that I said,

"Could it be an allergy or an insect bite?"

She called in a colleague who took one look and said. "Zona" ("Shingles")

The doctor prescribed 10 days of anti-viral medicine, and said there was nothing else she could do. She gave us a prescription for a strong medication for the pain. He described the pain as a burning and pounding in the stomach and chest, and his skin felt like it was on fire. The medicine put him in a sort of semi-coma but didn't stop the pain. The double blisters became clusters. I called the church to cancel the missions trip, but the pastor still wanted to come—he insisted that they could help and they wanted sincerely to do that.

We decided to go ahead with the project. I was on a walker and Gerald was in a darkened room at the back of the building. (I reserved a motel room for us for the 5 days of their visit. It is about 6 miles from us.)

Two bathrooms aren't enough for 12 to 15 people, so I rented two outdoor toilets. They were very nice—even had a sink to wash your hands. They had their own water tanks and didn't make a demand on our well. I also rented a shower. We have to do our distribution by the post office, but we made arrangements with the Boucherville church to do 2 days of distribution of tracts for them. We planned Saturday for work on our property, planned a trip to a historical Quebec village where everything is as it was in the 19th century --and half a day at Safari Park. We announced at the Boucherville church that the group would have special music for July the 30th with a special speaker. The church planned a banquet—members bringing the food. I shopped on the 27th. I bought Boost, sandwiches and salads for Gerald and settled him in the motel and bought food for the group for supper on the 28th and for Saturday. I prepared supper. I had invited our neighbor. We are friends. I am anxious for her salvation. No news at 7 o'clock - at 7:30 – at 8:00! Finally, I called.



"Why, hello!" he said cheerily. I asked, "Where are you? Are you close?" He said, "Where am I? What do you mean? Where should I be? I am at home." (in Northern Michigan!)

To make this shorter, the pastor who planned the trips had changed the dates because of a conflict with another group's trip. He gave a different date to our group—August, the 5th—but he didn't tell me! He just thought the leader of our group would talk about it. The group leader and I talked about the days, --arrive on Saturday, church on Sunday, etc.--not saying the dates! (It wasn't funny at first!)

I had to keep the toilets and the shower. I would have had to pay the transportation twice. Every activity with Boucherville had to be moved to the next week. At least there was no conflict in all that, but Pastor Plante had to come up with a sermon. I brought Gerald home. (The visiting church paid the motel cost). Sunday, I gave my supper to a family from Madagascar, members of the church. They had relatives visiting from Madagascar and had to take them to the airport with no time to prepare lunch.

When the group finally came, it was great! We loved those young people for their attitude and for their quick response to any job to be done. Their music was good and appropriate. They had a flute, 3 trumpets and good voices.



The boys & the youth pastor (7 young men) slept in the chapel (a couch & mattresses on floor) and the girls and the pastor's wife slept upstairs (5 girls, 5 single beds). We had two single beds in the office for boys, but they wanted to stay all together.

They piled the mattresses on the couch every morning and sat on them for practice and for devotions.



I enjoyed the week very much. Poor Gerald was disappointed to be so sick. The shingles started on his birthday, July 5, and he is just now getting out and around (3 months!). He just attended a 3-day conference, with an all-day meeting for pastors, and will preach this next Sunday at Drummondville.

One more thing. I had 4 people in the van for tract distribution. I drove to the area assigned to us. We covered 2 streets and then **the van quit running**, right in the middle of the main street! My passengers pushed the van into a side street and I called the church for someone to pick up my team. I called CAA and waited 40 minutes for the tow truck. It was big. The driver said: "Call a taxi, Madame. You'll never get up into the cab with me". But I did.



Temporary garage
We call it the Tempo.



The township required that the garages be taken down at the end of winter. We were not able to put ours back up so we left it up all summer and were not fined.



We asked the youth pastor if they could move it to a clearing on the property! He looked it over and said, "We can do it!" It is 20'x 20' and was anchored to the asphalt.



Our neighbors got a shock when they saw Tempo walk away! There is a hedge that hid the feet and legs.



Because of top branches, it was 2 feet too wide to pass through the opening. I suggested they turn it on its side.



The Youth pastor climbed a tree and sawed off 2 fairly large branches and one of the boys climbed the tree on the other side...



and they moved it in!



and set it down!



The Tempo can be used for activities most of the year.



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