

**Bill Ardill**

---

**From:** Bill Ardill [bill.ardill@sim.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 26, 2007 8:59 PM  
**To:** ardill-news@sim.org  
**Subject:** crafts and play

The children had a busy week getting ready for the school craft sale on Friday. Each year the junior class hosts a craft sale to raise funds for class activities. Marie's class worked hard over the last few months making various things to sell like Christmas tree decorations, candles, and so on. Most of the other participants are Nigerian craftsmen and seller of Nigerian curios and clothes. Every year we are the only family that rents a table to sell some things our children have made. This year David and two of his friends made bead snakes and bracelets and at the end of the day had sold all but two. Anna made a dozen different Christmas cards with her own original chalk drawings and then photocopied them to sell. She also did well and got quite a few orders. Dorothy and I are on the Board for the family enterprises so our functions include sales advise, proofreading cards, quality control and general oversight of all operations! Marie's class did very well in both their organizational and planning and in the profits from the sale of the crafts they made. It is quite a large event with lots of tables with a variety of things for sale including handmade quilts and pillows, candles, tree ornaments, doorstops, jewelry, wood carvings, various kinds of art, curios, and of course bead stuff and Christmas cards. It is a good time to do some Christmas shopping so our kids had a round or two to shop for each other and Mom and Dad.

This weekend the school also hosted the senior play. They did "The Curious Savage" and it was very good. It was quite witty and funny and I was surprised how many of the seniors were typecast for their roles. The seniors were exhausted by the Saturday evening performance so hammed it up a bit for the last performance. Our kids loved it although David fell asleep half way through.

A surgery resident arrived yesterday from El Paso for two weeks. He is interested in medical missions and got in touch with us through some good friends of ours, Don and Patsy Meier, who we visited last year on our drive across the U.S. Eric is a neat guy and we hope has a good experience during his brief stay. He did a case this afternoon and I have a full schedule lined up for him tomorrow. We are also expecting a team tomorrow from Camp of the Woods in New York. They will be working in another ministry the rest of this week but we look forward to showing them the various ministries in which we are involved next week. We are grateful they had a safe journey and pray for a productive and rewarding time for this team was well.

We now have four patients in the hospital who have a condition called enterocutaneous fistula. They all had surgery at other hospitals for various problems but developed a leak in their intestines so now they have stool leaking out their abdominal wounds or their vaginas. Most come to us very sick, dehydrated, severely malnourished and anemic and some near death. Our approach in helping them is pretty simple; they need food – protein – so we put them on a regimented schedule of taking a soy bean and peanut formula called "kwash pap" because it is used to help malnourished children with kwashiorkor. It is remarkable how well most of these patients do after a few weeks of a high protein diet. Some actually close their fistulas spontaneously without need for surgery. At least they are in better shape to have the surgery so their outcome is better. I feel so badly for these dear people who have suffered so much at the expense of other "healers" and how desperate they are. Several are Moslems so we pray for both spiritual and physical healing. Without the benefit of expense intravenous nutritional support, we rely on simple foods and prayer.

On Friday afternoon Dorothy gave an in-service presentation to the Hillcrest School teachers on some of the internet resources she is using to enhance her teaching. She did very well presenting the various internet sites and what they offer. The school is getting more sophisticated in what it is offering to students and teachers in the way of internet access and tools. Several teachers commented to her how much they appreciated her presentation. She is hoping the school will subscribe to some of the sites so they will be accessible to everyone.

That's all for this week. Thanks for your prayers and emails.

In Christ,  
Bill Ardill

Please reply to <bill.ardill@sim.org>.

No virus found in this outgoing message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.5.503 / Virus Database: 269.16.7/1151 - Release Date: 25-Nov-07 4:24 PM