

Bill Ardill

From: Bill Ardill [bill.ardill@sim.org]
Sent: Sunday, January 11, 2009 8:41 PM
To: 'ardill-news@sim.org'
Subject: SIM conference

Thank you for praying for a good conference. We are grateful there were no accidents or major illnesses this year during the meeting. The music and speaker were good, the youth programs outstanding and overall it was a good meeting. A team of four from College Parkway Baptist Church in Maryland came to run the children's program and did an outstanding job. David loved it and even got a yo-yo and a pair of 3D glasses! The kids especially enjoyed the American treats like the sugary cold breakfast cereal and candy. A group of non-SIM young adults in the Jos area ran the Middle and High School program and our girls all enjoyed it as well. The skit and talent show on Saturday night was especially funny this year with our girls all participating in various stunts. The final message was a look at the things that discourage us in ministry and ways to overcome discouragement. I have been struggling with discouragement in my work so it was a good reminder to me of the importance of keeping my focus on the right things.

We came back to a partially dug well in our backyard. There is a huge pile of dirt but the hole is only 16 feet and no water so far. They told us they would need to go to 30 feet so we continue to wait. We were surprised that there was some water in the old well, I guess partly because we had not used it for 5 days. We think we can make it through this week with what we have in our reserve tanks so hope new water is found soon.

In addition to being accepted at Azusa Pacific University, Marie was excited to hear she has also been accepted at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, California. She has not heard yet from two schools so we will see. We are busy working on getting our financial information in order so we can fill in the forms for need-based financial aid. She is applying to quite a number of scholarships and we are praying some will work out.

This will be a busy week again. On Monday and Wednesday afternoons I will be giving lectures at a trauma workshop jointly sponsored by the West African College of Surgeons and the local medical school JUTH. I will also start teaching the Apologetics class to the 11th graders at Hillcrest on Wednesday afternoon. The class is at the end of the day, 5 days a week, so I will be busy preparing for that each day. Dorothy and the kids start back to school on Wednesday as well. Dorothy was surprised to hear over the holidays she will probably have a new student in her class this semester so she is making the necessary additional materials for her new pupil.

Even though we will not be in Nigeria next school year, we wanted to let you know there are still needs at Hillcrest for staff next year including teachers for high school math, middle school social studies, high school principal, computer tech support and hostel parents. If you know of someone who might be interested in these opportunities, please have them contact us for more information.

We have started our furlough planning including our packing schedule and our summer travel schedule. We have an ambitious cross-country itinerary and will be letting you know soon the details. Thanks for your prayers as we make those emails and arrangements so we can see our many friends, family and supporters across the U.S. during the summer months. We are still planning to settle in San Diego for the year and hope to arrive there by August 1.

That's all for this week. Thanks.

Bill Ardill

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