

Bill Ardill

From: Bill Ardill [bill.ardill@sim.org]
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2009 10:21 PM
To: Ardill-News
Subject: [ardill-news] dinners and potlucks

This is potluck season when everyone wants to see everyone before we all leave but no one wants to cook for a crowd. We like getting together and eating other people's food just as long as we don't have to cook for all of them. Last Wednesday we enjoyed dinner at the Lemanskis house. Since we are going for the year we will not see them until after our furlough. Their son "CJ" and David are best friends and play every afternoon on the hospital compound. Hannah is in David's class so she is a good friend of David's as well. We will miss them and are sorry to be leaving the terrific community of friends we have both at Evangel and in the wider Hillcrest community.

On Saturday afternoon we went to a potluck for the staff of the elementary school. This was a large group and we ate well! It provided a friendly venue to meet spouses of people Dorothy has worked with all year and to learn about everyone's summer plans. We are very encouraged that all the full-time positions for Hillcrest are now filled with the exception of a high school principal and a computer network support person. There are still a few classes in the high school that are not covered but overall the school is in good shape for next year.

Then on Sunday evening we had an Evangel compound potluck at the Mitchell's house. Although we work at the same hospital every day, we rarely get together with the other families on our own compound so it was a great time of fun and fellowship. Rick Naatz, the laboratory technician, makes a great chocolate silk pie so that was the favorite dessert.

I didn't just eat last week, I actually got a few other things done. On Tuesday I participated in a strategy workshop for the Miango recreation and conference center. We hope it will help direct the ministry to serve the missionary community and others more effectively.

This Friday I will be sitting in on the SIM Council meeting all day. We are grateful Dr. Phil Andrew, a former SIM missionary doctor from Australia, has agreed to be the next SIM Nigeria director. He will not be coming until January 2010 so Bill Foute will be the Acting Director until then.

Sunday is a big day in our family. On Sunday afternoon SIM hosts a Senior Tea to honor the SIM kids who are graduating from Hillcrest. We have put together a PowerPoint slideshow of Marie since she was born and will say a few words to encourage her as she graduates. It is a very special time for parents to honor their children publicly and we are looking forward to that.

Then on Sunday evening I am giving the address at the Baccalaureate. I have been praying for the Lord's wisdom and leading and trust what I have prepared will be an encouragement and challenge the graduates. Thanks for your prayers for me on Sunday evening.

Dorothy has 2 weeks left of teaching since the elementary kids don't have a finals week. It is a challenge to keep the 3rd graders excitement in the school work since we are all tired. She has come up with some interesting end of year things that mix it up a bit yet is really still teaching. The thing the 3rd graders are most excited about is that they have been given the 4th grade math text book. In 3rd grade they have daily worksheets. So lugging home a real text book is soooo cool. She even gave them double math homework and they were thrilled. Teacher tricks!

In the meantime we are trying to get some packing done and sorting of clothes. The house looks a mess so that is a good sign we are making progress. Anticipating a very busy week next week we hope to get more done in the spare moments we have left of this week Thanks for your prayers.

I also have a very busy surgery schedule tomorrow and Wednesday as I finish up the cases I feel I need to get done before we leave. I do not want to go to work next week so am trying to wrap things up by Thursday.

Again we are grateful for your prayers during this busy time and look forward to seeing many of you soon.

In Christ,
Bill Ardill

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

* SIM by Prayer *
