

Bill Ardill

From: Bill Ardill [bill.ardill@sim.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 9:53 PM
To: 'ardill-news@sim.org'
Subject: Sunday was a great day

This is really the season for school programs. Over the past week we have gone to the Elementary Awards program, the High school sports awards program, the high school concert, the elementary school concert and the Baccalaureate service for the high school. It has been fun to see our children in each of these. We are proud of how well they have done as seen in the awards and recognition they received. The seniors were all dressed in Nigerian clothing in their class colors – black and gold – and they looked great. I gave the message and was encouraged by the response. If you would like a copy of it I will be happy to send it to you. It was a real honor and special joy to be asked by the seniors especially since Marie is in the graduating class.

On Sunday afternoon SIM had a special afternoon program to honor the SIM MK's who are graduating. As parents we presented a short PowerPoint presentation showing slides of Marie growing up and then spoke a few words to encourage her of how proud we are of her. It was a wonderful occasion as each family gave a unique presentation showing off their kids.

Marie has not had to take any exams so has been busy planning parties and outings with her classmates. Today she went with a few to a game park in Bauchi and on Friday she goes off again to another game park called Yankari that has a beautiful natural warm springs. Tomorrow is the High School Awards program and then the closing chapel is on Thursday morning with the grand graduation on Thursday evening. As the Chairman of the Board of Governors of Hillcrest I have the honor of giving each graduate their diploma.

I have not been working at the hospital this week so I can get the house packed, work on our furlough plans and presentations and wrap up the committees and Boards I am on. The house is beginning to look pretty empty as we have gradually loaded full boxes into the attic. Dorothy has been teaching this week so will be working in earnest on Friday and Saturday to get her things packed.

We are planning to go to Abuja on Sunday for an evening flight to Frankfurt. We will then fly to Chicago with a quick layover and then on to Charlotte. We will have two days in Charlotte at the SIM office for debriefing. We will then drive the car we have been given to Annapolis to spend three weeks with Dorothy's parents. We are very excited about our trip and are thankful for the Lord's answers to our prayers concerning the details. Thanks for praying with us for a safe trip to Abuja on Sunday and then on to the U.S.

On another note a neighbor is buying all seven of the baby rabbits to start their own rabbit business. A friend is taking care of the two adult rabbits we have until our return when David is looking forward to continue raising more rabbits. A Nigerian friend will take care of our dog, take the van on a drive occasionally and generally look after our place until the Kirschners arrive in late July.

Thanks again for your prayers and we look forward with great excitement to seeing you all soon.

In Christ,
Bill Ardill

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