

**Bill Ardill**

---

**From:** Bill Ardill [bill.ardill@sim.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 11, 2009 9:53 PM  
**To:** Ardill-News  
**Subject:** [ardill-news] getting started

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Red

Our house has been communication central for over a week as Dorothy has been helping the Whitakers communicate from Nigeria and then the U.S. since Bob was kidnapped, shot and then released last week. They are now in Nashville and Bob has had his initial surgery to set the fractured left upper arm broken bone. He seems to be doing well and they are now facing many decisions regarding where to go for his recovery and their future ministry. Bob is British and Annette is American so that makes things a bit difficult for now for visas. Their son Ozi would like to return to Hillcrest School in Nigeria so they are weighing that into their decision making as well. I know they would appreciate your continued prayers as Bob faces a long recovery, physical therapy and probably more surgery.

I started my part-time job at the Veterans Hospital in San Diego and am trying to remember the policies, computer software, procedures and government rules and lingo from my last furlough working at the VA two years ago. I am pleased I am working with terrific people and am looking forward to learning a lot and helping where I am needed in the department of general surgery. I have been on call since Friday so have already been busy with emergency cases.

Dorothy has been busy unpacking, getting the kids registered in their various schools and sorting out her own courses for completing her master's degree in elementary education. She has also braved the worlds of Wal-Mart, Costco and Albertsons grocery store and is learning about new food ideas, bargains, coupons and staying out of the middle aisles where all the stuff that is bad for you lives in grocery stores. She is doing a great job and occasionally brings home a treat of some new fangled food. We are easily amused!

Heather and Anna have been sorting out their own rooms and unpacking their stored treasures from last furlough but seem to enjoy most going to the shopping malls with their friends. Heather has been running almost every day as she trains to get on the cross country team at school. Anna has also been to a number of team practices for the volleyball team at school. Tryouts are this week so we will see how they do. It has been fun to watch them re-connect with their friends here in California. It was one of our desires – that our kids would have a “home” in America to come to where they knew people, had a church and family nearby.

David is not as easily entertained so we have been foraging for various “projects” for him to do. Fortunately I saw in a craft store this week boxes of small wooden build-it projects for \$1 each. I bought three and will probably go back and buy four more to keep him busy. He also got the “loan” of a neighbor's hamster so that will help keep him entertained for a while. He is probably looking forward to school starting more than the twins so he can have more friends to play with.

We hear little from Marie but she seems to be enjoying her summer work as a camp counselor. She is now in a cabin of younger girls so has a lot of girls with home sickness and other issues. She is enjoying working with her co-counselor and we pray she will have a lasting impact on the girls she befriends this summer.

Word from Nigeria has been quite discouraging. In addition to the kidnapping of our friend, there have also been riots in several cities in the north and middle belt of Nigeria with increased persecution of Christians. We continue to pray for the safety of our friends and colleagues and especially those being persecuted for their faith. Thanks for your prayers for us in this time of transition.

In Christ,  
 Bill Ardill

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

\*\*\*\*\*

\* SIM by Prayer \*

\*\*\*\*\*