

Bill Ardill

From: Bill Ardill [bill.ardill@sim.org]
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2009 9:25 PM
To: Ardill-News
Subject: [ardill-news] getting ready for school

We finally have almost all of the boxes and bags unpacked and a few pictures on the wall – that usually takes us several months! We can now see the carpet but most of the other flat surfaces in the house are covered. We have also been putting Marie's things in boxes for her to sort when she gets here. So far we have not had to buy any new furniture and are managing to find places for most things. It sure is a lot easier having lived here before and having bought most of what we needed to set up house.

Dorothy has been quite busy getting Heather, Anna and David registered for their classes and after-school activities. Heather is working out with the cross-country team every afternoon for 2 hours and is getting back her running form. Anna will be playing volleyball with a club team on Wednesday afternoons and David will be taking gymnastics and tumbling lessons. I am not sure why he needs lessons in this since he seems to be tumbling and rolling on the furniture all over the house most of the time he is in motion. Dorothy has also been looking for a piano teacher for them and instrument teachers – flute for Anna and trumpet for Heather. So far she might have found a piano teacher (something we could not find in Nigeria!) so has to look for instrument teachers now.

At church we have enjoyed getting back into our former Sunday School class and are glad to see familiar faces and people who know us. The kids' church activities are still in the summer mode and have not yet gotten into the activities of the school year. We are so grateful for the wonderful music and preaching at the church and the encouragement of the missions team staff.

Marie is having a terrific time as a camp counselor. Last week she led three girls to a personal relationship with Christ and she called on Sunday and told us she had led three more girls this week to Christ. She has the 9 year olds so some are homesick and have other problems. Marie is being challenged by both the rigorous schedule and the personal problems of some of the girls. We are looking forward to her return next Monday evening. We have missed her but are so grateful she has had a rewarding summer.

I have been busy in my part-time job at the Veterans Hospital. The surgery and operating room are wonderful compared to the resources at Evangel but the patients are generally much older with a lot more medical problems so are sicker post-operatively. I guess it is a testament to the conspicuous consumption of Americans and the American diet! I am working with terrific people and am grateful for the warm and friendly reception I have received. In the current economic and job climate, I am so grateful for God's provision of this work which allows me to get current on surgery in America and provides an opportunity for me to teach surgery the residents.

The obstetrician who was kidnapped and shot, Bob Whittaker, is improving and is now home (Tennessee) from the hospital. He will need a skin graft and nerve graft in addition to physical therapy so has a long road ahead in his recovery. His son is now enrolled in a school in Nashville so we are grateful for God's provision for a home, school and friends in their church to help them. Thanks for your prayers and interest in this dear family.

Heather, Anna and David start school on Thursday. Coming from Hillcrest with a high school of 100 and going to Rancho Bernardo High School with a student population of 4000, they are naturally a bit scared. I know they would appreciate your prayers as they step into this new school year in a challenging context with most of the students and teachers not Christians. They will face situations when their faith will be tested and we pray not only will they stand up for what they believe but will be a positive influence on their friends.

On a final note, as we have traveled the country and are learning our way around San Diego, we have gone to many places. This week in the car David asked the simple questions, "Is there a house in America that has the #1? Is there a house anywhere with #1?" I was not sure how to answer his question as we realized most houses in our area have 5 numbers in the house address! Stay tuned...

In Christ,
Bill Ardill

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

* SIM by Prayer *
