

Bill Ardill

From: Bill Ardill [bill.ardill@sim.org]
Sent: Sunday, August 30, 2009 9:22 PM
To: Ardill-News
Subject: [ardill-news] dental week

For four days this week she looked like the old black and white silent movies with the guy who had a sore tooth and had a towel wrapped around his face and jaw with some potion to dull the pain. Her mother kept replacing the small ice bags on each side every few hours and slipping into her mostly closed mouth the drugs to prevent infection, dull the pain and put her back to sleep. Finally on Saturday she emerged from her toothless coma and was coherent enough to eat dinner with us which involved sucking spaghetti (cut into toddler sized pieces) a strand at a time through her pursed lips. We are glad to report Marie is much better today, the swelling is down enough to now recognize her, she is eating more normal food and is conscious more hours a day than she is unconscious! Thanks for praying for her. It was painful and tiring but we are thankful she came through without any complications and now can look forward to the rest of her life without worrying about her wisdom teeth (or as the Calvinist said, "I'm sure glad that is over with!") She will do some shopping this week for school and then we head out on Friday to take her up to Los Angeles to get settled in Azusa Pacific. I know she would appreciate your prayers as she begins this new chapter in her life.

Now for the rest of the family we have a few things to report as well. David got braces put on his upper teeth this week to realign a tooth that was coming in the wrong place. He chose blue colored pads to hold the wires and so far has said there has been very little pain. He now has to be careful what he eats and it is especially hard for a candy lover like him. He is also enjoying his Wednesday afternoon time at the gym learning tumbling and trampoline maneuvers. He also had a terrific time at a church friend's house on Friday night at birthday. The theme was "knights" so they dressed up and had sword fights and playing all sorts of games around that theme. Fortunately they did not include the beheading part of the Middle Ages in their games.

We were thrilled this week when a Christian woman in our church called to let us know she and her adult twin daughters would like to give our twins both piano lessons as well as instrument lessons. One twin plays the trumpet and the other the flute so it is a perfect match for our twins. Anna is enjoying her Wednesday and Saturday volleyball. Heather has struggled in cross-country with sore knees and legs so is trying to decide if she will stay with it. The track team members have been very friendly to her and have a lot of social activities which Heather likes so we will see this week what she decides. They are both beginning to feel the pressure of homework in tough classes so they are getting serious about their use of time. Heather's atheist teacher pulled her aside after one class this week and thanked her for making the class discussions interesting. He appreciated her willingness to engage him in class discussions so that is encouraging. We also got some Christian apologetics books for Heather and Anna to help them have more reasons for their faith. In addition to Norm Geisler and Josh McDowell's terrific books, I also recommend a book by Frank Turek called "I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist."

Dorothy has been working hard at enrolling for her classes as well but has been quite frustrated with the school computer system and internet site. We hope this week she will be able to find out exactly which classes she needs to take so she can get on with it. I am also interested in getting more education in "adult learner" classes to help me improve my own teaching of both surgery and Christian topics but will wait until we get Dorothy sorted out and find some resources to do that.

My parents are both doing well. I am off Thursdays and have enjoyed taking them to various doctor appointments. We count it a great privilege to be so close to them and are enjoying their friendship, help and love for our children. It is wonderful to see our kids interact with them and learn from their great experience in life.

We also heard today that Bob Whittaker who was injured in the armed robbery had his skin graft this week and seems to be improving. Thanks for your prayers for him.

So this week we take our little girl Marie to college. On Thursday she turns 18 and on Friday it's off to college. As we enter this new phase, we covet your advice and prayers. We pray these next years the

Lord will use her education and experiences to mold her more into his image and prepare her to serve Him wherever He leads. We also pray the Lord will use her to influence others for the Kingdom – classmates, teachers and others like the children she will be tutoring in her work-study job in the neighborhood. Stay tuned as we look forward to sharing with you what the Lord is doing in her life and through her in the coming days.

Till next week...

In Christ,
Bill Ardill

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

* SIM by Prayer *
