

December 2006

Dear Ministry Partners,

And she shall bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call His name Jesus: for He shall save His people from their sins. (Matthew 1:21)

We love this time of the year and the opportunities it gives us to focus on God's gift to us in the birth of His Son. We are so thankful to be able to teach Celeste (6) and Amber (3) the true meaning of Christmas. We are also thankful to be sending you our first prayer letter!

The past four months have flown by since attending Candidate Seminar at Baptist Mid-Missions in July. We spent most of August and September preparing our printed materials (prayer card, brochure, letterhead). It was essential to have these items available before we began contacting churches. If you have not previously received a copy, we have included them with this letter.

Beginning Deputation

In October I began contacting churches referred by friends and family members. I soon discovered that the follow-up would require more time than I could give during the evenings and weekends. I met with my employer to discuss working part-time so I could devote more time to deputation. As I explained how God had led us to this point, they were very supportive and pledged to work with me to accommodate my schedule. They thanked me for letting them know my future plans now, rather than waiting until I was ready to leave permanently. Praise the Lord!

First Church Meeting

In October we had our first meeting at our sending church's missions conference. Long hours went into preparing our presentation for this event. We are so thankful to our good friend, Chris Weitzel, who worked tirelessly to assemble a very high quality video. Ruth prepared our table display, which features many of the pictures we took and items we purchased during our trip to Romania.

This missions conference was the perfect way to begin deputation. We are thankful beyond words for the leadership of our sending church and the congregation. They have been a tremendous help to us spiritually through prayer, referrals, and encouragement and financially with initial expenses.

November News

In November we visited several churches outside Ohio. We began at Faith Baptist Church in Check, Virginia. Later we traveled to Florida for a conference for my employer and several days of vacation with family. While we were in Florida, we visited Cornerstone Baptist Church in Lakeland and Maranatha Baptist Church in Sebring. On our way home we visited Faith Baptist Church in Valdosta, Georgia. We praise the Lord for safety as we traveled over 3000 miles in November. Long trips are new to our girls, and they are adapting wonderfully!

Prayer Requests

In December we have been concentrating on calling churches, mailing information, and scheduling meetings for 2007. There is much more we could share, but we will wait until next time. In the meantime, please remember these prayer requests:

- New meetings to be scheduled in early 2007
- Safety as we travel during deputation
- Balance between family and deputation
- Continued guidance in the decisions we make
- Salvation of friends, neighbors, and co-workers
- Perseverance throughout the deputation process

May God bless you this Christmas and New Year!

Dave, Ruth, Celeste, and Amber

