

May 2008

I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings. (Jeremiah 17:10)

Dear Praying Friends and Ministry Partners,

In this chapter Jeremiah tells us that the heart is deceitful and desperately wicked. Very simply God knows the thoughts and motives of man. As followers of Christ He knows whether we are bearing fruit. Is your heart pure and holy before the Lord?

God's Hand of Protection

On our way home from Illinois in April the serpentine belt on our van came off causing us to lose all cooling, electrical, and power steering. I pulled off to the side of I-65, but it was not safe. God allowed us to get the car cooled down enough to drive to the next exit. A man and his wife stopped and offered to help. They invited us to their nearby home where they had tools. After 45 minutes' work, we were able to drive home. We later learned they are born again Christians. Thank you, Lord, for keeping us safe and providing help when we needed it!

Deputation Update

Since our last letter we have traveled to 10 churches in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Michigan. Each church we visit holds a special place in our hearts, and we are thankful for the sweet people God has placed in our paths to challenge, encourage, and bless while also providing for us and our ministry. Here are some highlights:

- Sharing our ministry at Norwood Baptist Church, the church that started our sending church over 40 years ago.
- Visiting Riley Creek Baptist in Bluffton, OH. Riley Creek traces its history back to the mid-1800s.
- Art Mathers' introduction at First Baptist Church of Butler, PA; lunch at the "White House," home of Steven and Janet White; the girls spending a day at First Baptist Christian School.
- Participating in the missions conference with 16 other families at First Baptist Church of Kenmore, OH.
- Celeste becoming pen-pals with another Celeste at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Warrenville, IL.
- For the young boy who prayed to receive Christ while visiting Calvary Baptist in Bensenville, IL.
- Mother's Day at Mason Road Baptist Church in Jackson, MI; for the flowers and paper butterflies; for the missionary closet items and the special gifts for the girls.
- Being a part of the 30th anniversary of Liberty Baptist in Elyria, OH; enjoying the music ministry of Mike Allen.

- Visiting Camden Baptist Church, which has long been involved in ministry in Romania; staying with the Sacrimony family; meeting David and Felicia Lee who will be working with the street children in Bucharest, Romania.
- Spending Memorial Day Sunday at Freedom Baptist Church in Jackson, OH; the afternoon of fellowship with Pastor Eaton and his family; the picnic after the evening service.

News on Home Front

We are frequently asked what our plans are for our home when we leave for Romania. We believe God is leading us toward selling our home primarily because we cannot afford to make the payments for what we can realistically rent the home. This month we made a list of items that need to be done before selling. Please pray for us as we consider what items to address and when. Pray that the projects we choose will enhance the home and speed its sale at the appropriate time.

Support Level

Two new churches have joined our ministry: Cookport Baptist Church and Shoaff Park Baptist Church. Two more churches are very close. One more family has also begun support, bringing us to **50%!** Continue to pray that we will reach 60% by September and full support by the end of this year.

Upcoming Meetings

6/1	Lowman Baptist Church, Pine Grove, WV;
	Galilean Baptist Church, Fairmont, WV
6/8	Harvest Baptist Church, Cincinnati, OH;
	First Baptist Church, Eaton, OH
6/15	Shawnee Hills Baptist Church, Jamestown, OH
6/22	Calvary Baptist Church, Byesville, OH
6/29	Emmanuel Baptist Church, Marysville, OH;
	York Baptist Church, Milan, MI

Praises

- For the young boy who accepted Christ
- Protection and provision during car trouble
- For the 9 new meetings scheduled—8 in 2008
- For the successful garage sale and getting rid of stuff!

Prayer Requests

- For Ruth's cousin, Sarah, diagnosed with leukemia
- Direction as we prepare our home for sale
- We have had over \$900 in auto repairs this month
- For wisdom and provision as we consider orthodontic treatment for Celeste in the near future

Dave, Ruth, Celeste, and Amber

