

The Kimmel Family

Reaching Romania for Christ

September/October 2008

Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah. Psalm 68:19

Dear Praying Friends and Ministry Partners,

In Psalm 68, David is praising God for His provision, for His tremendous power and strength, and for the way He protects us. This month we share several examples of the Lord's protection and provision in our lives. Have you thanked the Lord recently for His abundant blessings in your life?

Deputation Update

It seems like September went by in a heartbeat! At the end of August we participated in a mission conference at Maranatha Baptist Church in Oak Grove, KY (near Cambellsville). The people at Maranatha were warm and friendly, and the preaching by Jeff Alverson was challenging. From there we headed to Fairfield Glade, TN for our family vacation. On the way we stayed for two nights in Nashville at Beacon Baptist Church and attended church on Sunday morning. On the second night we heard a loud knock on the door not long after we went to bed. We thought we were the only ones in the building. Needless to say we were startled and frightened since there was no response when we called out. All we could do was pray (and move the TV in front of the door!). God kept his hand on us, and we were able to get a little sleep afterward.

Our trip to Tennessee was very nice. We enjoyed fishing, swimming, boating, and horseback riding. The weather was lovely, and the time was very relaxing. From there we went directly to Launch Seminar at BMM (see page 2).

While we were on vacation we learned that our web hosting company, which we had also been using to send our email prayer letters had suffered a "catastrophic failure" and had lost our email list and archived prayer letters. This meant that we had to reconstruct our email list from a previous list and from the sign-up sheets we have on our display table. Needless to say this was a slow and tedious process. Now we will always keep a local copy of our email list.

The weekend after Launch Seminar we were at Mount Pleasant Baptist in Homeworth, OH. On our return home after the afternoon service and picnic, we drove through the remnants of Hurricane Ike that was crossing through Ohio that day. From Homeworth to Columbus (over 2 hours) we battled to stay on the road and out of the way of other cars. Once we reached Columbus, the wind had subsided, but there were very few lights along the highway as most homes and businesses were without electricity. When we arrived home we discovered widespread damage to trees and homes. We were blessed that

our home did not lose power through the storm, which was a blessing as we only had a couple days to prepare for the mission conference at Hillcrest Baptist in Richmond, IN.

The conference at Hillcrest was a tremendous blessing. On Thursday night each of the missionaries shared their presentation to four different groups of 15-20 people. Mrs. Houston was a wonderful hostess to us and the girls loved playing with her grandchildren next door and swimming in the pool.

In early October we were privileged to be a part of the mission conference at First Baptist Church in Niles OH. Pastor and Mrs. Reed were such a blessing, and the church went above and beyond to make us feel welcome.



Amber and Celeste sing at First Baptist

Support News

This month we welcome Calvary Baptist Church in Massillon and one more individual to our team. Our support has risen to **64%**! We also know of 3 churches who will be voting on us this month. Three more churches are interested in joining us depending on their faith promise. We are praying that we will be at 70% by the end of October.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

10/15-19	Massillon Baptist Temple, Massillon, OH
10/26	Roanoke Valley Baptist Temple, Roanoke, VA
11/2	Northwest Baptist Church, Jackson, MI
11/16	Calvary Baptist Church, Pontiac, IL
11/23	Springfield Bible Baptist Church, Springfield, OH
11/30	South Park Baptist Church, Crown Point, IN

Praises

- Attending Launch Seminar in September.
- Free home schooling books from The Book Peddler.
- Time away to celebrate our 15th anniversary.
- Protection on the roads, and new tires for the car.

Prayer Requests

- For the three churches who are voting on us this month.
- For the salvation of friends and neighbors.
- For Celeste as she adjusts to orthodontics.
- For full support by the end of 2008 and a spring departure.



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God's Protection and Provision on the Road

On our return home from Niles, we took the car in for regular service. The assistant manager informed us that all four tires were developing a crack on the inside of the tread. Long story short, instead of paying \$200-300 for a new set of tires (with a discount) we were able to get a brand new set of 80,000-mile tires for the cost of mounting and balancing. The Lord also protected us from a potential tire failure on the road.

Launch Seminar

We want to thank you for praying on our behalf throughout this year so that we could be in Launch Seminar in September. We were thrilled to be reunited with three families from our candidate class in 2006, the Hills, the Darlings, and the Barnes.



Launch Seminar 2008 (L to R): Alan and Beth Hill, Simon and Elise Ouellette, Daniel and Karrah Darling, Cletis and Tammy Titus, Dave and Ruth Kimmel, Andrew and Wanda Barnes.

During Launch Seminar we had four days of sessions that were intended to prepare us for our departure for the field. We learned about dealing with culture shock, financial transactions overseas, managing conflict, creating photo and video archives of our ministries, insurance, retirement, estate planning, and much more. We were also privileged to share in the devotions and prayer time with the home office staff each morning.

One of the highlights from that week was spending time with our teammates, Lucas and Kimberly Warner. Lord willing they will be heading to the field early next year. They graciously opened their apartment to us and took care of Celeste and Amber when we were unavailable. The girls were thrilled to spend the week attending First Baptist Christian School in Elyria and playing with the children of the Wilcoxes who own the apartment and The Book Peddler, a Christian homeschooling book distribution company, that they operate from their home. They blessed us with a generous donation of new books that the girls will be using over the next three years.

It's a Small World

We continue to marvel at how small the world has become since we have been on deputation. But none had been as close as a relative of someone who lives on our street! At Hillcrest Baptist Church in Richmond, IN we learned that Pastor Cunningham is the grandson of our neighbor, "Mrs. 'B.'" We also learned that the son-in-law of Pastor and Mrs. Reed at First Baptist in Niles, Don Humphreys, was one of our professors at Cedarville. When we visited Shawnee Hills Baptist in Jamestown, OH in June we met the nurse who treated Ruth when she broke her elbow when she was a camp counselor during college. Small world or big God?

Family News

On September 25 we celebrated our 15th wedding anniversary. We spent a few days in Florida while the girls visited Ruth's parents. It was a refreshing time to enjoy one another again, and it reminded us of the importance of taking time to make memories together away from the hustle and bustle of daily life. I am thankful for all that Ruth does in our home and our ministry. The Lord has greatly blessed us over these 15 years. We are looking forward to the next 15 years in Romania!



The Southernmost Point in the U.S. in Key West, FL

Celeste has begun her orthodontic treatment. On October 22, Celeste will have the palate expander inserted. She will have that for three or four months before receiving a permanent retainer. The retainer will likely stay in until she is ready for further treatment when she is older. We are thankful for your prayers. She has been very brave so far, and Dave has been able to go to the appointments with her, which is a blessing.

Thank you for your faithfulness in praying for us,

Dave, Ruth, Celeste, and Amber

