



Ministry in Belize, Central America

February 2010

“Jesus came to seek and to save what was lost.”

-Luke 19:10

Dear Family & Friends,

It is definitely bizarre to still be wearing flip flops and shorts this time of year. We should be recovering from all the ice and snow from the recent US winter storm. I still find myself occasionally shocked that “we’re not in Kansas anymore, Toto,” but living in another part of the world. Over a year later, we are still acclimating ourselves.

Here are some of the activities we’ve been involved in since our last newsletter in December:

- A season of peace and rest for the staff at Baptist Training Center was enjoyed over the Christmas holidays before the full spring/summer calendar in 2010.
- A chance to return to North Carolina over Christmas and New Year’s was action packed but such a joy to see so many friends and family.
- The Belize Bible School, a local Belizean Ministry, a Mennonite Wedding, and 3 faithful Mission teams were hosted here at the BTC within the past few weeks.
- The month of January was a lot of fun by sharing many donated items to various organizations. Even the “Scholastic Book” company donated over 400 books *free* to three different schools we have been working with.
- Eric has remained busy with Rotary projects, his Bible Studies, and participating in/helping his Asian church. He is working with leaders at Ciera’s school to put a covering over the playground. Also, he is currently building a “prayer room” from the screened-in porch on our house.
- Julie has started studying the book of Hebrews with her prayer group. This group is also prayer walking throughout the village. Each of the ladies have a specific day of the week, therefore, there is someone each day covering the area in prayer. We believe God will answer prayer in some amazing ways!
- Ciera is enjoying 2nd grade. Though homework is still frustrating at times as well as being responsible for her books and spelling tests, she has risen to the challenge. She has gotten to be great at riding her bike too...even on gravel!

- Josiah is speaking so much more just in the last month! He's enjoying his preschool, playing with other children, and riding his tricycle. And we are sad he is outgrowing his nap because he is a bundle of energy! But he makes us laugh constantly.
- But God is so faithful and truly at work in Belize. He is bringing the Prayer Group ladies consistently every week, even in the rain (which used to stop them from coming). There is another "bad influence" teen in the neighborhood asking about God, wanting to go to Church and requested a Bible. And the concern of a mother for her young daughter a year ago now sees evidence of her going to church, sending out Bible verses on her phone and demonstrating the gift of giving! God surprises us in many unusual ways....

Thank you for your continued support, emails, and prayers! We miss you all!

See below for recent pictures....

Love,

Eric, Julie, Ciera & Josiah Maas

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Christmas in NC
with lots of family,
friends, food, &
fellowship



Eric was asked to help
with Baptisms from
his church in the river
at Roaring Creek



We explored a different
Mayan Ruin and this one
you had to climb the steps
holding a rope to get up
there. It was steep!!



The Tooth Fairy
was busy at our
house!



The Hand bells make it to Belize for Belmopan
Baptist Church. What a new sound for many!



Josiah out
taking a stroll
giving his
Sesame Street
friends a ride



A young girl
enjoying
reading one
of the new
books from
Scholastic
Book
Company



A few of the Prayer Group ladies



Josiah making Julie laugh when he finally realizes a hat does keep the sun out and is worth wearing!

"NO EYE HAS SEEN, NO EAR HAS HEARD, NO MIND HAS CONCEIVED
WHAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."

—1 CORINTHIANS 2:9