

Christmas 2008

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Dear Friends,

I have been listening to Christmas music on the radio in the car ever since Thanksgiving, but I still need to give you an update of what I have been doing over the last few months.

Equip's 2008 training programs went very well, as usual, and we are already receiving registrations for 2009. I spoke with a missionary from another agency on the phone the other day. She serves with a group from Texas that travels overseas with medical personnel to help children who need surgery. They want to send their team of assistants to take our Medical Intensive training, so that when they get to their mission field they will be able to effectively assist the doctors and nurses. Another missionary phoned from Cambodia to ask if it would be okay to fax their forms in when they went to a big city on holiday, as they are stationed in a remote village. Yes, it is fine to fax in the registration forms, and their bank sent us their deposit.

In the Finance Office things are going well. We are always grateful for the wonderful people who keep on supporting their missionaries even when things are difficult. We have some new missionaries just starting the support discovery process, and it is so encouraging to see new names being added to the mailing list as people send in their checks. The work of Missions really does take a team. It takes all of us, the missionaries, financial and prayer supporters and support staff working together to carry the Gospel message to the lost.



It is so uplifting reading newsletters from our mission fields! Some of our ministries include medical work, orphan care, education, water and sanitation, prison ministry, children's ministry, food production and ethnic outreach. I was intrigued to read of the young lady who visits the villages on a motor bike with her med kit strapped to the back to bring health care to those who would have none.



Our church had a fall party in the church park for the children Saturday October 25th. Wow! Did we ever have a lot of children! There must have been at least 50! That is a lot for us! Two of our men brought their farm tractors and wagons to give hay rides, and we purchased small pumpkins for each child to paint one to take home. There were hot dogs and the "fixin's" and, at the very end, a piñata full of treats. Everyone had a wonderful time. Unfortunately, we were so busy helping and entertaining the children that I did not take many pictures... actually, only this one. Hopefully someone else was there with a camera!

Christmas Play practices are always interesting. They are a good time to get to know each child a little better. Our play this year is a "Storybook Christmas" and is all in rhyme. When we started reading through it we let each one read a paragraph. Little Keshon read " 'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the town, the rooms were all taken, everyone wore a frown. Sweet Mary and Joseph had come from afar, and they traveled by donkey, for they hadn't a car." His brother, Ty, asked "Why didn't they have a car?" It was the perfect opportunity to give a brief history lesson!

In the Children's Corner...I have been having so much fun! I found a couple of good websites with ideas for Gospel illusions. Things disappearing, and changing shapes and colors, seems to really help keep the little ones' attention. How can they believe what they have not heard? And how can they hear if they are not listening?

Thank you, dear friends, for your prayers and financial support. Missionaries in hard places count on this office being here. Thanks for the part you have in this ministry. May God bless you and give you a wonderful Christmas!

In His Service,
Kathe Horvath