



Tooth Tales

A Newsletter of Jack & Jennifer Mitchell



August 2014

We have much to rejoice about as we write this letter. God has been so very good to us this summer. Come listen to all that God has done!

What do off road vehicles, hair pin switchbacks, gorgeous scenery and carrot snatching donkeys all have in common? They were all part of our much needed vacation in July to one of our favorite places – Arizona! In the midst of a busy summer schedule of overseas travel we managed to squeeze in a week of fun and relaxation (hmm, maybe) as we celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary. Crisscrossing the state to visit some beautiful spots was just what we needed before heading out once again to the far corners of the globe. We thank the Lord for His gracious provision in allowing us to have this get away.

Then it was on to Micronesia and its remote islands with the medical and dental ministry. Leaving on the 3rd of July the team of seven spent two weeks ministering in some very obscure locations. We had asked for special prayer for the time spent on the island of Tol and God answered so wonderfully in providing a good ministry there on an island known for trouble. Our team was well received and the gospel was able to be shared in a place so desperately needing it (are there any places that don't desperately need it)? Working with the students of Harvest Baptist Bible College in Guam was a tremendous help and encouragement. Please pray that the gospel seeds planted on those tiny islands of Micronesia would bear rich fruit for eternity.



Our Micronesia Team

So many of you have prayed and inquired about our little foster grandchildren. On July 24th we wept as we welcomed them officially into our family. For two and a half years we have loved them and prayed and wondered if it would ever really come about. It would take too long to recount all the ups and downs of this process but the important thing is that God showed Himself faithful and strong in allowing them to be officially adopted (and us to be home to be present). We praise Him for His kindness and sovereignty.

Just two weeks after returning from Micronesia (and just about a week after the adoption) it was time to fly to Benin, West Africa. A team of four left Boston to meet up in Paris with another four (from various states in the US) to fly on to Niger and then drive the seven hours into Benin. We were blessed to have our team leader, a surgeon, two dentists, a dental assistant, two nurses, and

a premed student with us. Working in five different locations the team was able to treat 1,200 people in two weeks. We praise the Lord for the unique opportunities that medical care opens for the gospel to be shared. Our host missionary mentioned to us that since the medical clinics have been held people are coming to him regularly. Here's what he said in a recent email, "I have had several open doors in the past week to share the gospel with individuals that have expressed amazement at your compassion and grace. It is such an uncommon sight for them in this culture." He has great contact now with the people of the surrounding area where it was not this way before.

It was a tremendous thrill for us to see the work on the Benin Clinic site progressing before our eyes. We were able to see the well and the wall around the property going up. We are hoping to see construction on the actual building when we return in December for another evangelistic trip. The Lord has been so gracious to provide the funds for this phase of the project. Please continue to pray that the way will remain open for this clinic to be completed and used as a beacon in an area steeped in deep spiritual darkness. The Lord has used the compelling physical needs to open this door for the gospel. We are praying that the compassionate care received will soften hearts to allow a proper hearing of the message of life.

We now have a three month stretch here in the States. Two trips overseas have been postponed until a future date and this will allow us to visit some churches to present our ministry in them. Our mission banquet will take place the first weekend in October in Westerville, Ohio this year. We always enjoy our time in the Midwest and it will be a blessing to be with the folks of Westerville Bible Church. From there we fly to Denver for a missions conference and then to Bob Jones University for their missions emphasis week. Before we know it, it will be time to fly back to Benin for another time of ministry there.

Thank you so much for praying for us, for encouraging us and for giving toward this work. We are trying our best to be faithful to the call of God upon our lives. We feel that missions is the heartbeat of our Lord and we appreciate you knitting your hearts with ours in this work of His.

Sincerely in Christ,

Jack and Jennifer

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Waiting Patients Hearing the Gospel in Benin

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