



The Maynards

Preparing to Serve in
Ecuador

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Maynard Family!

Some of you remember how the Lord worked last year right at the last minute to answer our prayer and lift our support level over the 50% mark. We received notice on Dec. 31, 2008 that Nashville Baptist Church in Nashville, MI had voted to support us, and that put us at 51% support. Our faith was grown through that experience, and we were greatly encouraged.

We began to ask the Lord to bring in the rest of the support, but throughout the year as we have traveled and seen how the economy has affected many churches, we began to wonder if it might take us a lot longer than we had originally thought. After much prayer we were moved to set 8/9/10 as a date for leaving, and to begin praying that the Lord would provide in His time. November came, and we were at 57% support and wrapping up our travels for 2009. We visited 38 churches this past year, and traveled more than 18,000 miles. It was a very exciting year ministry-wise, but our support level did not increase nearly as much as we had hoped. However, during one week in November our support jumped over 33% ! We fully expect to be able to leave in August for language school in Costa Rica.

Although the BIG news is the increase in support, there have been a lot of other exciting things that have happened this year. The Lord provided a new van when our old one began to die. Joey finished K4 and began Kindergarten, and is learning to read. Michele got a part-time job working at the local hospital in the Emergency Room as a secretary, which then turned into a full-time job as a tech. She has learned a lot and is excited to be able to use some of her medical experience in Ecuador. Jason has enjoyed the many opportunities to preach from God's Word. Also, he has been spending time with his brother deer hunting, and got his first Ohio buck at the beginning of November.

One of the biggest highlights of the year for us was all the wonderful friendships we have made with so many of you this year, and the bond that we have in Christ. We thank you for partnering with us in so many ways – financially, in prayer, and with your encouragement and your service to our Lord.

As we head into 2010 there is much excitement, but also a lot of the uncertainty that comes with heading into the many new experiences that lie ahead. We are encouraged by the promise of Ephesians 3:20 which says

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”

May the Lord grant you a New Year that finds you experiencing and testifying of the power of Jesus Christ to do far more than you can ever ask or dream of!



New Prayer Card Coming!

Some of you may have noticed that we did not send out a Christmas photo card this year, as we have done previously. That is because we have been working on putting together a new prayer card, and unfortunately we have not been able to have it ready by Christmas as we had hoped. It has been 3 years since our current prayer card was created, and it's time for a new one! We hope to have those available by February, and will mail a stack to each of our supporting churches and churches we have visited recently. If you would like our new prayer card mailed to you directly once they are available, please send an email request to: maynards@maynardfamily-ecuador.com and include your current mailing address. We will be happy to send you one just as soon