



Jason & Michele Maynard

Preparing to Serve in **Ecuador**

March/April 2009 Issue

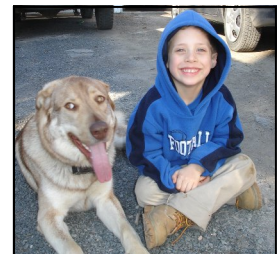
Report from the Road

It has been a little over a month since our last update—time flies, and we can't believe how much has happened over the past several weeks. Our apologies for being a little behind on the updates. Here are some of the recent highlights:

- February 15th we visited Grace Bible Church in Morgantown, WV. This was the first time that the Wal-Mart song was requested during a church service, but since it was Pastor Peters who requested it I guess that's ok. We had a lot of fun and enjoyed seeing what God is doing there.
- February 22nd we were in Fort Thomas, KY at Highland Avenue Baptist Tabernacle during both the morning and evening services. We also had an opportunity to visit with some friends from one of our supporting churches, Heritage Baptist in Lebanon OH.
- February 27 —March 1 we took part in a missions conference at Fellowship Baptist church in Upper Marlboro, MD. We had a wonderful time, and enjoyed our host family the Stanleys so much that we decided to get "snowed in" for an extra day.
- On March 8th we had scheduled to be at Hartford Federated Church in Hartford, MI, however Joey and Michele were sick. So Jason went alone and limped his way through the presentation solo. Actually, it went pretty well in spite of that, and he really enjoyed meeting the church family. We hope to return with our whole family so that we can get to know everyone better.
- March 15th found us at Orwell Bible Church in Rome, PA, which we soon realized was right in the middle of Maple Syrup producing country. Not only did we really enjoy the friends that we got to meet there (Joey enjoyed the Vieldhouse's dog), but we also learned a lot about just what it takes to make a bottle of Syrup, and gained new respect for the people who make it. We also found it interesting that Rome, PA was the hometown of Philip P. Bliss, the famous hymnwriter.
- March 29th we shared our ministry at Faith Brethren Bible Church in New Paris, PA and we were amazed at how many people packed into the service that day! God is doing something exciting at this church, and we had fun getting to meet so many new people. We also realized that we were only a few miles from Shanksville, PA where United Flight 93 went down on 9/11, and stopped to visit the memorial in the field there. It was a very somber realization of the sacrifice that was made by the passengers and crew to protect the lives of others.
- Michele has recently accepted a job working in the Emergency Room at the local hospital here in Painesville. Although it is part-time, the Lord has provided us with health insurance, which is something we haven't had for over a year. We are thanking God for His blessings!
- We thank the Lord for the addition of 2 new supporting churches— Chester Gospel Church in Charlotte, MI and The People's Church of Potter Brook in Westfield, PA. We have also seen the addition of 3 new individual supporters during the past several weeks. Our current support level is at 55%! We are asking the Lord to allow us to reach 85% by the beginning of November so that we can attend Field Prep Seminar at ABWE headquarters,



Orwell Bible Church



Joey and Oliver

Hitting the "Home" Button

Last year we were able to purchase a GPS unit for our van, and with all the travelling we do it has been very useful. One of the traditions we have come to enjoy it is what we call "Hitting the Home Button". Each weekend, after the service is over and all the equipment is loaded into the van, we power up the GPS and one of us hits the button that is pre-programmed with our home address. We wait anxiously for the unit to locate a satellite and calculate how long it will be until we arrive back home. Then we spend the entire trip staring at the little box, watching the minutes tick down until we reach the house in Painesville, OH that we call home. As our family prepares to leave for Language School and then make the move to Ecuador, we have realized that this house on Carroll Ave in Painesville, Ohio is only our temporary residence, but we still enjoy coming home after a long weekend.



I was listening to a song by Steven Curtis Chapman called "Not Home Yet", and as I listened to the words I couldn't help but think of our GPS tradition. Part of the second verse says this:

"So close your eyes with me/ and hear the Father saying 'Welcome Home'/Let us find the strength/ in all His promises to carry on
He said 'I go to prepare a place for you'/ So let us not forget/ We are not home yet

The Bible tells us that if we are part of the Family of God this world is not our ultimate home. We are just like Abraham, who is described in Hebrews 11:9-10 in this way:

"By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as *in* a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God.

Let me challenge us to think about the way that we invest in our current home. I'm not talking about your physical address, but your life here on this earth. How are you investing your life? If you had a "spiritual GPS" that would tell you how much time you had left till you arrived at your Heavenly home, how would you use that time? You see, God has already "Hit the home button" on your life if you are one of His. But only He can see how much time till you arrive at your destination. He could come tomorrow! Let's redeem the time for His sake.

Praises & Prayer Requests

Praises:

- Praise the Lord for the addition of 2 new supporting churches and 3 new individual supporters recently!
- Praise the Lord for the provision of a job for Michele with Health Insurance!
- Praise the Lord that our support level is now officially at 55% !

Prayer Requests:

- Please pray with us that we would be able to be at 85% support by November 2009 so we can be invited to attend Field Prep Seminar at ABWE headquarters
- Please pray that we would be able to continue to schedule meetings throughout 2009
- Please pray for the people of Ecuador, that God would be preparing their hearts for the Message of the Gospel
- Please pray for our health as we travel
- Please pray for our relationship with the Lord to be strong and continue to grow deeper
- Pray that we would be good parents to Joey and that we would be able to train him to love and serve the Lord

Upcoming Ministry Schedule

- 4/26/09 – Faith Baptist Church – Phoenixville, PA (am svc)
– Faith Baptist Church - Sellersville, PA (evening svc)
- 5/3/09 – Faith Baptist Church – Novelty, OH (AM svc)
- 5/10/09 – (Mothers' Day)
- 5/17/09 – Hillside Bible Church – Mifflinburg, PA (am svc)
– Berean Bible Church - Pottstown, PA (evening service)
- 5/18/09 – 5/22/09 – EDGE Seminars at ABWE Home office – Harrisburg, PA
- 5/24/09 – First Baptist Church of Elma – Elma, NY (pulpit supply)
- 5/31/09 – Huntsburg Baptist Church – Huntsburg, OH(am service)
- 6/7/09 – Emmaus Bible Fellowship – Mentor, OH (am svc)
- 6/14/09 – East Lindley Baptist Church – Corning, NY (all day)

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