



Kimberly's May 2008 Newsletter

Pathways to Ghana



Please pray for Melissa, Ira (upside down) and Derek, short-termers to Ghana for the summer. Their group is just one of several "Pathways" teams sent out on June 1st by Team Expansion to work alongside of missionaries on the field for 9 weeks. The Ghana team will spend most of their time serving the needs of villagers living in northern Ghana, working with Kingspride & Priscilla Hammond. My hope is to join them for the last 2 weeks of their ministry.

Mark Your Calendars

6/27	Travel to Maryland/Pennsylvania
6/30 to 7/7	Chicago, IL with family & friends Tentative: Paxton Ave. Christian Church on 7/6
7/8	Return to Ghana, West Africa
7/16 to 7/25	Tentative: travel to northern Ghana to join Team Expansion's Pathways Team & Kingspride and Priscilla Hammond
7/26 to 8/1	Hosting Team Expansion's Pathways Team in Accra/Cape Coast area
8/2	Pathways team return to the U.S. for debriefing
8/4	Fall semester begins at Ghana Christian Univ.

Visits with Supporters

After landing in Chicago and spending a few nights recovering from the sinus-related cold I picked up during my 11-hour flight from Ghana into the U.S., I hit the ground running with a visit to my mom's Sunday School class at Salem Baptist Church and Christ Temple Cathedral Church of Christ in Chicago, followed by a two-week trip to Virginia. Between classes at Regent University I got to visit Calvary Evangelical Baptist Church in Portsmouth. Pastor and Mrs. McFarland (who I had just seen in Ghana during the month of March) and the congregation laughed as I shared with them funny stories about Michelle Brown and Vernicia Eure's short-term

trip to Ghana in summer 2007. For the two single women, building relationships with the people they met left a positive impression on them not easily forgotten. My next visit was with Faith Community Church on Sunday, May 25th in Norfolk. I arrived at the home of Pastor and Mrs. Moore with so much luggage that they wondered whether I was moving in. Pastor Moore and I debated one evening about whether our U.S. currency should contain the words, "In God We Trust." I believe seeing the new gold coins without the symbolic inscription was re-entry culture shock number one for me. Later, I learned that the inscription was actually imprinted on the edge of the \$1

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coins—but I had already given them away to the man who helped me with my luggage at the airport.

In Louisville, I visited with Denise Watts-Wilson, also part of the short-term team that traveled to Ghana last summer. Denise and I talked about similarities in victories & challenges we've experienced in teaching. The only team member of the 2007 trip I didn't get to see, but hope to talk to soon, is Percilla Perry.

That initial week in Louisville also afforded me an opportunity to speak to members of St. James Missionary Baptist Church during their week-night Bible-study service. I was pleasantly surprised by the turn out, and blessed by all of the questions they asked about my ministry work in Ghana. Pastor Evans, and his wife, Delphine, were just two of many who expressed a desire to join me by 2010 for a trip to West Africa. How humbling it was for me to hear Pastor Evans encourage the church to continue their prayer and financial support of my work—the first and only missionary they've actively partnered with in more than 25 years.

Though I didn't get to see all of my former co-workers who make up the missions ministry team at Southeast

Christian Church, I did get to share an update with Stephanie Garling who provides excellent member care services to all of Southeast's ministry partners. I confessed a specific prayer need—that I will be more godly when driving in Ghana rather than giving in to the road rage as Ghanaian drivers impatiently honk all the time, and tro-tro's (public transportation vehicles) scratch the sides of my car when trying to overtake tro-tro's in front of them just to earn a measly .20 cents (perhaps you can infer from reading this how much I need those prayers). :)

A visit with Terry and Amy Ruff of Northside Christian Church, Team Expansion's newest team members to lead the sending base project in northern Ghana, provided an occasion to hear their strategic vision for reaching the peoples of that area and surrounding countries as they plan to arrive on the field in December, just after the Christmas Holiday.

I made surprise visits to Seekers ABF Class on Saturday night and Living Water ABF Class on Sunday morning at Southeast Christian. How awesome it was to learn that a member of Seekers had taken her first short-term mission trip during my

year and a half service in Ghana. Pat traveled to Bogota, Colombia and met some of the same people I did when I was there in 2003. But the shocker was in learning that Doris, a member of Living Water, had signed up for a leadership conference in Kenya next month. Still, I can't say that I am too surprised by her change of heart, especially when I prayed for God to "do His thing in her!" Doris had told me several years before (during the time I worked state-side in mobilizing African-American believers for greater involvement in cross-cultural missions) that she would support me however she could but was comfortable right where she was. Thanks be to God who often takes us out of our comfort zones to be a blessing to His peoples in other nations, using the same skills, abilities and giftedness wherever He sends us as He enables us to use for His glory in our home lands. I wonder who's next?

All in all, my trip home and visits with supporters and friends in the month of May has been just the inspiration I've needed to return to Ghana, that much more excited about all that God is doing in the lives of everyone who has touched mine. Thank you for your continued prayers and support!

Financial Recap May 2008

Receipts

Avalon Church of Christ	\$ 100.00
Christ Temple Cathedral COCH	80.00
E.B. Enterprises, LLC	500.00
Faith Community Church	100.00
Living Water ABF (Southeast)	100.00
Southeast Christian Church	300.00
St. James Missionary Baptist Church	50.00
Individuals	\$2,560.00
Total Receipts	\$3,790.00

Expenses:

100 - Salary	\$ 540.00
110 - Medical Insurance	398.70
111 - Special Medical Expenses	77.00
130 - Social Security	278.00
141 - Roth IRA	250.00
150 - Housing	160.00
470 - Joint Team Projects	600.00
740 - Home Office Fund	100.00
880 - Home Service Fund	250.00
Total Expenses	\$2,653.70

Praise—for all of you, my ministry partners!

Pray—that none of my supporters will feel slighted if I'm unable to visit this year.

Pray—for my Forwarding Agent, Ethelyn Taylor, who has been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Pray— for Jane Summay, a supporter and friend whose husband, Russ, recently passed away. I love you!

Send a personal letter or card to Kimberly at:

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