



# Evans on Mission

lee\_evans7@yahoo.com  
laurie\_evans7@yahoo.com

December 2009



## Frohe Weihnachten/Merry Christmas from the Evans family

Today I saw a car that had three items hanging from the rearview mirror: a pacifier, a small wooden cross, and an air freshener. I thought to myself how this embodied the gospel message. Christ came to earth as a baby and died on a wooden cross to cleanse us from our stinky sins and make us fresh and new. Sometimes it's the little things that surprise us with joy when we aren't even looking. May you be surprised by joy in the little things this Christmas season!

## Lottie Moon

It seems the entire world is undergoing a financial crunch at the moment, and the International Mission Board is no exception. In Southern Baptist churches, the Lottie Moon Christmas offering is designated for the IMB for missions. The bulk of the IMB budget comes from that single offering that is given only once a year. Please keep an eye and ear out at your church to see when the Lottie Moon offering is taken, and be in prayer about what the Lord would have you to give. Many times there is not a dramatic fundraising campaign, but a simple envelope in the pew. In this current financial climate, the IMB must make tough choices in how to cut budgets, including very important ministry budgets. Every dollar counts, so please do not forget to give. God uses the offerings in those little envelopes to do giant things around the world for His Kingdom!



## Mentoring

Lee has been working on his internship for seminary this semester. He is creating a mentoring program which includes training teachers in mentoring students. He has held training sessions and has challenged BFA teachers to begin one on one mentoring relationships with students. He, of course, continues his own mentoring of students as well, while writing his own mentoring curriculum. It has been a successful and rewarding internship. Now he has only one online class left to take and then he writes his thesis and is finished. He has also recently been made the team leader of our IMB/BFA team.

## Family

❖ Emmalee is in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and flourishing in her life at BFA. She has a role in the middle school play again this year. She is also taking voice and guitar lessons. She enjoys sports in the intramural program and is actually a pretty tough goalie. She also leads worship and plays guitar in the chapel band. She loves to act in the dramas on Sunday mornings in the "Kid's Stuf" Sunday school program. She is blessed with many gifts and talents.

❖ Caylie is in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. There are only four girls in her class, but the relationships seem to be going better than they have in the past. She is enjoying horseback riding lessons. She also has a role in the drama part of the elementary school choir concert. She is keeping up her piano playing as well.

❖ Nathaniel is in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. He has a split class where he is joined with 3<sup>rd</sup> grade for the afternoon. He is doing well in school. He continues to play on the German soccer team, which is helping all of us develop more relationships with Germans and practice our language.

## Fall semester

This fall we hosted a conference for educators with the IMB who teach missionary kids. It was a great time of looking at goals and strategies with peers and with our new leadership. Our new identity statement is "sent out ones, serving sent out ones." We have also gone back into a boys' dorm as weekend dorm parent substitutes. We have 28 boys to cook and care for one weekend a month. So far we have done a Mexican theme, a pizza night, and a Korean night.

In addition, Laurie has been taking a German class to try to improve her language skills. Lee is leading the resident assistant Bible study for a second year. Both of us continue to lead teams of seniors as they lead the middle school small groups in the program called Chrysalis. It is always a challenge to find balance in life and we certainly need continued prayer as we seek God's priorities for the way we spend our time and talents.

### Prayers:

- Healing for Lee's sinus problems.
- Mentoring program to take off.
- Wisdom and good connections in student ministry.
- Balance in priorities and commitments.
- German language learning and practice.
- Finances raised for Lee's spring break mission trip to Tanzania.

### Praises:

- Kids are all doing well.
- Students and staff are responsive to mentoring.
- New friendships with Germans.
- BFA alumni serving on the mission field
- **Emmanuel, God with us!**