

MISSIONARIES to the MILITARY



Summer 2009



I have some fond memories of SUMMER - my boyhood days out of school; special vacation trips with family; retreats with men of the church; picnics and playing softball with Airmen from the Center - all precious times God has given me through the years. This summer, too, has been a special time and one I'll want to put in my book of special SUMMERS.



Linda listens to Nathan quote his Scripture verses he has memorized!

CENTER MINISTRY . . . The enjoyment of summer, along with several other factors, has greatly affected our attendance. Young people love the beach and other outdoor activities and the weekends are the only time they can get away. *Nathan* took leave for 3 weeks and went home to the cooler days in South Dakota. (Who can blame him?) *Gary* has been deployed in training and on emergency leave in South Carolina. *Armando's* work schedule has kept him on duty most Saturdays. *Valerie* has returned safely from Iraq (praise), but hasn't settled in yet to the Center schedule. *Brad* is getting things ready for his transfer to Germany next month and spent a week at home in Michigan. Others are busy with their own interests and activities. So, the cycle of our ministry follows as it has in previous years. Both Gary, along with Nathan, our lone bunk room resident, are doing well in the

MTM Discipleship Program and faithful in church attendance. There have been 10 Airmen to enroll in the program during the past few months, but some haven't developed good study habits and disciplines. We still emphasize to them the importance of learning God's Word.

AIRMAN OUTREACH EVENTS on base continue each quarter. Cookies were provided for the May event by the ladies of *Bethel Baptist Church in Cary, NC* - Thanks ladies! We had a good turn out for this "GLOW in the dark GOLF" event (**pictured here**) at the golf course - lots of fun. In August we have planned the ever popular "Build a Boat" event at the base pool. For the past two years, this has been well attended by young





A great place for airmen to relax

Airmen. I provide cookies for dessert and meet many new Airmen. Even though I lost the opportunity to present the Center ministry to FTAC, I still have my base pass and access to the base. PRAISE THE LORD!

FAMILY . . . *Linda* has some ongoing health matters which will require tests and procedures. I'll bring an update as soon as we have the results. I had several tests related to some health concerns and they all came back normal, for which we are VERY thankful. One of these was an ultrasound on my carotid arteries and the other was a cardiolute stress test to find out my heart's health, considering I am diabetic, on blood pressure medicine and I have an elevated cholesterol level. All the reports came back good - PRAISE!

SUMMER . . . actually late spring, was a great time of family fun for us with our "Texas Family" (pictured with **Linda and me on front**). *Brian*, our son in law, returned from deployment in the Middle East and the whole family, (*Brian, Jennifer, Emily, and Savannah*), came back to NC for a short vacation. We were able to join them for a real, week-long vacation. We even took *Linda's* mom with us and she did fine away from her familiar environment; being 85 years old.

PRAYER and PRAISE . . . This is a request to pray for our "Texas Family" and news as well. *Brian* was expecting to remain at Sheppard AFB, Texas for another year, but he learned recently that he will only spend 4 years there as an instructor. He will complete his 4th year in September, so he is expecting, **at any time**, orders to transfer to another base. Of course, we would like for them to be ordered back to Goldsboro, but we have asked the Lord to send them where HE wants them. **Please pray with them and us about their next assignment.**

In addition to those mentioned in our news, there are other ongoing requests:

- * *Debbie Mathis*, Gary's wife, with health problems and seeking doctors' diagnosis.
- * *Ray, Jeff, Joe*, and other deployed military members and their *families* at home.
- * *Laborers* for the Center ministry.

WE PRAISE THE LORD . . . for you, our supporters and prayer partners! In these days of economic unrest and high unemployment, we are so thankful for your faithfulness to maintain commitments to the Lord's work around the world. Also, we thank the Lord for His provisions during the last year while *Linda* went through her surgery and health problems. **We have not been billed one cent** from any of the hospitals, doctors, therapists - **not one!** Thank the Lord! Plus, the Lord provided finances for incidental expenses along the way. **We serve a GREAT GOD!!**

I'M SURE GOD WANTS US to enjoy the seasons He has created while we remain on this earth. *"While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."* (Genesis 8:22) **HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!!**



Still Serving and Looking,

Joe & Linda
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