

keeping it simple. love.learn.live.



NEW CBC WEBSITE

CBC has a new website. At no other time in CBC history has a website been this important to the successful development of making disciples. This may sound a little dramatic but as CBC grows in size, the leadership will be utilizing technology to help assist the movement from seeker, to worshiper, to full-fledged disciple of Jesus Christ. That is the purpose of the new website and why every attendee & member of CBC should take advantage of what it has to offer. Before getting into the details of what the website can do, here is a brief explanation of why we felt the need for a new one. After the church wide surveys a couple years ago and reading the "Simple Church" book, it was obvious that we at CBC could do better...at everything. We took that challenge seriously. Fast-forward 2 years, with the elder's newly stated philosophy of ministry, mission statement of "Make Disciples", easy language and over-all theme of "Love, Learn, Live"; we wanted to be well prepared to help move people from one commitment level to the next. Technology will be a big part of making that happen successfully.

The new website at www.countrybible.org has many more features than we will be able to list in this article, but we will primarily focus on the overall appearance. It's a simple, clean site that's designed to make navigation effortless. We took into account that CBC is frequently blessed with many visitors and that those visitors will most likely search for us on the web before attending. Historically a church's first impression was the foyer or entrance, but now, like many other organization's today, it's the website. We want to give a good first impression.

We are working hard at bettering our communication at CBC, so on the website you'll see graphics on the

homepage of upcoming events as well as our Facebook link that will give you information if you don't happen to check the CBC site every week. Communication goes both ways and we encourage you to sign up for a miCBC log-in. MiCBC is our secure website that enables us to better communicate with you...we want to make sure we have accurate information about you and your family so we can get to know one another better. Then together, we can prayerfully Love, Learn and Live and continue to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

For 3 years, we have streamed the 9:30am service live on the internet and archived all of the sermons either on video or audio. We will still be doing this and will continue to evolve the media ministry to better serve the church. We are now archiving the video announcements as well on the media page which are played before the sermon almost every Sunday to keep you "in the know".

The CBC website will continue to evolve and develop, but we need you to help make it successful. Take some time to browse the site and get to know the staff and our story...we'd love to get to know you.



CBC Home Groups are coming to an end, and summer events and Bible studies are getting ready to take off. It's been a fantastic year of fellowship and discipleship and we are very excited to see it carry over into the summer. Starting Wednesday June 8th, Taylor will be leading a weekly in-depth study of the book of James and starting Thursday June 9th, Clay will be leading a weekly study on apologetics.

Recently students took part in the Urban Plunge, getting an opportunity to see poverty up-close in north Omaha. Students were challenged as they visited and served the Sienna Francis homeless shelter, the Mission for All Nations food pantry, the Open Door Mission, the Abide Network, and Bridge and Salem Baptist Churches. It was an eye-opening experience for all involved the students are very excited for the next visit to Abide.

Finally, as the CBC Youth is finishing up the year, we are also getting ready to bid farewell to our senior class. Our prayers are with you during your final summer at home and as you depart for college.

YOUTH GROUP YEAR-END PARTIES

• Food. • Caffeine. • Big red ball. • Dodgesponge. • Summertime. Come end the school year in style at the Year-End Parties at Grampa's Farm. The junior high party will be May 11th and the senior high party May 18th, from 6:30 to 9:00. Contact Taylor Venema (402-943-7317) or Clay Wakefield (402-253-9107) for details.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

It is time to think SUMMER!! While some of our Sunday School teachers are continuing to teach through the summer, others are taking a much needed break to relax and refresh. We are in need of a three year-old teacher and assistant as well as a 3rd and 4th grade teacher and assistant for part of May, all of June and July and part of August. If you would like to help out for the summer or would like more information on these children's ministry opportunities, please contact Laura Hendrickson at laura@countrybible.org or call her at 402-426-5592

UPDATING YOUR miCBC PROFILE

Please visit our newly designed website at www.countrybible.org. Trouble viewing? Please refresh the page. We also want you to click on miCBC and after you have logged in, we'd love for you to take a minute to update your profile information by clicking on the 'go to my profile' link in the upper right hand corner to make sure that our records are correct. You can upload your picture to help create our online photo directory as well as add "friends" so you can stay in better contact with one another. Once you update your gifts, abilities and passions in miCBC who knows what opportunities God may have waiting for you.

CBC Pastors & Directors



Chuck Larsen
Senior Pastor



Kevin Shultz
Executive Pastor



Glen Hudson
Pastor of
Congregational Care



Richard Palmer
Pastor of
Christian Education



Derek Davis
Director of
Creative Arts



Clay Wakefield
Director of
Student Ministries



Taylor Venema
Junior High
Director



Laura Hendrickson
Director of
Children's Ministry



Roxanne Smith
FIT Director

CBC Elders



Russ Cowley



Dave Jensen



Ron Livermore



Joe McBride



Tom Morrison



Bob Sweeney

REPORT ON THE ART OF MARRIAGE

On Friday evening March 4, and Saturday March 5, 2011 CBC hosted the 'Art of Marriage' video conference. These videos produced by FamilyLife of Little Rock Arkansas are based on the 'Weekend to Remember' events that have held in hotels across the nation for the past 35 years.

In this fresh new video-guided event, The Art of Marriage weaves together expert teaching, engaging stories, man-on-the street interviews, humorous vignettes, and more--depicting God's best for couples in theory, technique, and application. It's practical, funny, and straight to the heart.

In January of this year Kim and Dee Snow shared their passion to help plan and sponsor the "Art of Marriage' at CBC. Many people invested time, energy and resources to make this event a success. Over 40 individuals spent that first weekend in March focusing on God's design for marriage and their roles as Christian husbands and wives.

If you were unable to attend this event in March I have great news for you. Sometime in the future CBC plans to offer the 'Art of Marriage' as one of the many 'Life Changers' learning groups. These groups will be held on campus at CBC on Sunday morning at either 9:30am or 11:00am. Please continue to watch the Sunday morning bulletins and video announcements as well as the CBC E-Newsletter for more information on Learning Group opportunities at CBC.

PROVIDING FOOD FOR FAMILIES IN DILEMMA!

From time to time situations develop that tend to disrupt the normal household routine for families connected to CBC. A new baby arrives, the passing away of a family member or close relative or perhaps a medical emergency of some kind. There is a group of volunteers at CBC that are ready to keep food on the table for families experiencing these and other stressful events in their lives. This group is called "MEALS THAT MINISTER". Prepared meals are delivered to the homes of those needing the group's assistance for short periods of time. If you would like to be a blessing to others by providing an occasional meal for a family in distress please contact the coordinator of "MEALS THAT MINISTER", Laura Ronning by logging on to miCBC; click on 'GROUPS'; select "MEALS THAT MINISTER"; under 'ACTIONS' select 'Request to join'. You may also contact Laura by calling (402)426-4415 (Home) or (402)427-3848 (mobile) or e-mail Laura at rronning@huntel.net.

BLAIR CHRISTIAN ACADEMY NOW ENROLLING.

Blair Christian Academy (a satellite school of Omaha Christian Academy) provides a caring Christian environment, daily prayer, and a low student-teacher ratio permitting your child to receive individualized instruction. Conveniently located at Country Bible Church, Blair Christian Academy is accepting applications for kindergarten through fifth grades for the 2011-2012 school year. Fully accredited with the Nebraska Department of Education, the Association of Christian Schools, Intl., and the North Central Association, Blair Christian Academy combines academic excellence and Christian values. See the difference that a Christian education can make in your child's life. Visit www.OmahaChristianAcademy.org to learn more or call Kathy Larsen at 402-614-5716 to schedule a school visit. Blair Christian Academy - Education for now AND eternity!



PRAYER NEEDS & UPDATES

... The **prayer** of a **righteous** man is powerful and effective. James 5:16

CBC PRAYER CHAIN HIGHLIGHTS

CBC PRAYER CHAIN

If you would like to become a Prayer Partner please go to 'sign up' at our webpage; click on FORMS; scroll down the forms list and click on "Prayer Chain Sign-up".

Prayer Chain



To submit requests, feel free to fill out a prayer card or contact Pastor Glen Hudson.

PRAYER MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT CBC

Philippians 4:6-7 has some great things to say about prayer.

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This tells us that if we talk to God about the tough stuff life seems to bring our way as opposed to expending our energies practicing the art of worry, a peace that we cannot even imagine will protect our hearts and mind. I love the way Eugene Peterson puts it in THE MESSAGE. Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.

The wise counsel provided for us in the Bible and prayer are the primary components in every ministry group at Country Bible Church. In addition the prayer that is a part of every group, we have three groups whose primary purpose is prayer. The three groups, the Prayer Chain, the Prayer Warriors and the Prayer Shawl groups make up the Prayer Ministry at CBC.

The Prayer Chain currently consists of 115 CBC attendees, members, staff, elder, and pastors who are committed to praying for needs as requested. Prayer team members are notified by e-mail as the requests come in throughout the week. Updates and praise reports are also sent out by e-mail as they become available. This group is led by Glen Hudson

The Prayer Warriors are fewer in number and are individuals who take an extra special interest in the prayer needs of our congregation. In addition to personal prayer the groups meets regularly at CBC on Sunday morning to pray together. The Prayer Warriors also place phone calls or mail post cards to assure people that there needs are being prayer for. Gwen McKinnis faithfully led this group for a number of years before turning the leadership over to her assistant Stan Heyden in September of 2010.

The members of the Prayer Shawl ministry use their talents of knitting and crocheting to hand make shawls, blankets and crosses that are then presented to those experiencing crisis in their life or major milestones such as child dedication, baptism or high school graduation. Vicki Lynn Gaver is the current leader for this group.

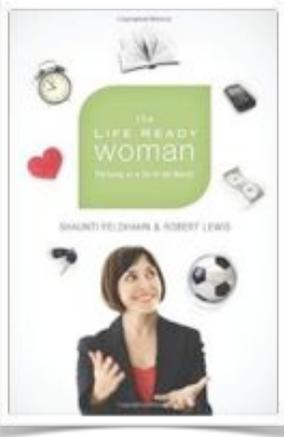
Submitting a prayer request may be done by sending an e-mail to glen@countrybible.org, calling the church office at (402)426-5592 or by completing a Prayer Card and placing it in the Prayer Card Collection Box located at the Visitor Information Center outside the main auditorium doors. Blank Prayer Cards are located at the Visitor Information Center or on the table inside the main auditorium doors near the sound booth.

To learn more about any of the CBC prayer groups log on to miCBC; click on 'groups' and select the desired group. To become a part of one of these ministries click on the 'JOIN GROUP' tab on the groups main page on miCBC or contact the leader of the group.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

WOMEN'S SUMMER STUDIES

Girlfriends Unlimited (CBC Women's Ministry) is sponsoring 2 Summer Studies. Sign up for either study online at www.countrybible.org or at the Ministry Center. (Sorry, no childcare offered.) Study 1 - "The Life Ready Woman", an 8-week study beginning Thursday, May 26th from 12 Noon-1:30pm weekly. Michal Wilson (CBC Counselor) & Amy Barnhill will be facilitating the study. For stay-at-home moms or globe-trotting executives, young single women to senior citizens, who have wondered, "How do I juggle it all?" The Life Ready Woman helps women discover God's road map for finding balance, peace, and delight in this crazy contemporary life. Speaker, author, wife, and mother Shaunti Feldhahn describes God's plan and purposes for women. This high-impact DVD series equips each participant to:



- Experience more of life—with less regret
- Minimize stress
- Find clear direction about God's priorities
- Bring a biblical balance to life
- Discover clarity in relationships, including with God and men
- Develop a personal plan for fulfilling God's callings

Study 2 - "Living Free: Learning to Pray God's Word" is a 6-week study offered on Tuesday evenings beginning June 7th from 7pm-8:30pm. Julie Flynn will be facilitating this book study by Beth Moore, which provides a personal Bible study experience for five days a week for six weeks. Beth explores the somewhat-radical idea that we cannot please God by being perfect. The study begins by defining false strongholds, then focuses on five key benefits for every believer, including how to find satisfaction in God and experience God's peace. Participants can learn how to develop a Godward focus in life, while beginning to incorporate the key benefits in their lives through practices of prayer and Bible study. Participants will look at the nuts and bolts of the matter of pleasing God and answer the questions:



- How can we overcome persistent, defeating, devastating patterns of sin in our lives?
- How can we become so nonself-centered that we no longer focus on our own performance?
- How can we become so God-centered that we no longer want to pursue things that displease Him?

CBC STAFF BIO'S



Richard Palmer was born in "Small Town, USA" or, more specifically, Hartington, Nebraska. His father Merle and mother Betty owned a Nutrena Feeds business and managed a chicken hatchery while son and daughter, Ann, helped whenever possible.

Following high school, Richard attended Wayne State College and upon graduation with a degree in Music, married his high school sweetheart, Leslie Samelson, who also attended Wayne State College, played Volleyball but,

unlike her husband-to-be, graduated in only three years - Summa Cum Laude.

In 1973 the couple moved to Mapleton, Iowa but stayed for only one year before moving to the University of Illinois where they (Leslie worked as hard as Richard did) completed a Master of Music degree. In 1975 they moved to Ankeny, Iowa where their daughter Libby was born, before returning to Illinois for the Doctorate in 1979 and then on to the University of Texas at El Paso in 1982. All this time, Richard directed Church Choirs in denominational churches with Leslie as the group's most beautiful (in appearance) alto.

Dana College offered Richard a position in 1984 so the family (human and feline) moved to Blair. By 1990, Leslie, who had been teaching Pre-School with Marge Dibben for some time, completed an endorsement in Elementary Education from Dana and began her public school teaching career at South School in Blair. Meanwhile, Richard taught and conducted the Dana College Chorale touring throughout the United States, Canada and Europe.

In 2010, the demise of Dana College turned into an opening door to CBC for Richard and one he stepped through without hesitation. His wife, Leslie and their daughter Libby, her husband Roy (who is a Manager for Baker's groceries in Omaha currently assigned to the 90th Street site) and their one-year old son Jackson Richard Torres are also blessed beyond measure to be a part of the CBC family and hope to be for many, (God willing), many years.



I am Roxanne Smith. My background is in Education, pharmaceutical sales and career coaching and resume writing. I love reading, running, and vacationing in Minnesota. My family started coming to Country Bible when I was in 3rd grade. If you grew up in Blair, you may know me as the daughter of the hockey playing, Dana Track star and Blair 5th grade teacher, "Mr. Seburg". My son, Dillon Smith, is a 7th grader. He is a great student who loves to play and watch almost every sport, his favorite being baseball. My daughter, Taylor Smith, is a 5th grader. She also loves most sports. She is a gymnast, a trumpet player, a singer and a socialite.

As the FIT Director at CBC, my responsibility is to work with Lay Leaders to equip them to help others prayerfully identify and best utilize their spiritual gifts to live out God's plan for their lives. I am praying that in the months ahead God may direct you to find the perfect area in Life that allows you to use your God-given gifts, abilities, and passions to make disciples. If you are feeling the tug of the Holy Spirit to get involved, whether it be in a specific area or in general, and are not sure where to start, please mention this to any ministry leader or set up a time to meet with me (roxanne@countrybible.org).

FCBC MISSIONARY SPOTLIGHT

Dear friends,
I'm sorry it's taken me this long to touch base with you all after our trip to Peru. We hit the ground running pretty hard and things haven't slowed down at all.

Both Libby and I were very grateful to be able to spend those three weeks in Peru. It was wonderful to see our friends. We got to see nearly everyone we hoped to see and others we didn't even expect to see at all. Some of those God-arranged appointments were pretty amazing opportunities to encourage people. We were encouraged with what God is doing with our little church in Huanuco. Geoff and Tina have been working together with a church in Pucallpa (the jungle city a day's drive away) to get the little body grounded better in the word of God. One young man named Dumer (DOO-mare) is really growing into a leadership role quite well. It was enjoyable spending some time with him, hearing him teach and explain the word of God. The aim is not to raise up one man but several who will share the role of leading and feeding God's people. The steps they are taking are leading that way. Things in the village are not so bright. The church there is growing weaker in many ways. Percy shared some of his concerns with me and the heavy burden he and Yolanda feel. We've had the opportunity to chat with them via Skype a couple of times since

we've been back, and they are asking for prayer. There are so many needs and so few people and resources directed toward those needs. Those who ARE involved can easily be overwhelmed. However, the bright side in this is that the churches in Pucallpa and Huanuco have an awaking interest in supporting the church in Angasmarca. They've made some short trips up to help the people with their health issues and with the need for a new church building. This is something that would likely not have been possible just three or four years ago. The involvement of our team with the people in the village has built a foundation of sorts for this new aspect of ministry that is opening up.

Please be praying for Percy and Yolanda and their work with their own people. Please ask that God might stir the Peruvian/Quechua churches to provide the necessary funding for the radio programs they are working on.

Please pray for Dumer, Isaak (from Pucallpa), and other newly developing leaders in the Huanuco church. There's a long way to grow in their understanding. Pray that the

word of God and the Spirit of God will teach and guide them. Geoff and Tina are beginning preparations to return to the U.S. for a year. I'm sure they would appreciate prayer for all the work and decisions involved in that. Thank you for praying for us here. Many things are going very well. The winter has given me time to work hard at getting the business equipped and ordered



to handle the higher volume of work spring weather is bringing. God has opened quite a few doors already and the network continues to grow. But we continue to face pretty heavy discouragement, too. Pray that we will be able to hear the voice of God's leading for us during this time so we can follow it wholeheartedly and without having to constantly second-guess every decision we make. God bless you all,
Shane and Libby
Email: libandshane@eroam.net
Skype: libandshane
Phone: 402-216-0757
Cell: 402-853-1489

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MISSION TRIP

Jessica Lauritsen will be going to the Dominican Republic May 23-June 4. She will be ministering with Students International (SI). SI is a Christian mission organization whose missionaries are ministering to the poor of Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, and Costa Rica. Their missionaries are professionals who are ministering in their area of expertise. While in the Dominican Republic, Jessica will be providing occupational therapy services in a school setting. She will be working with children to develop a program that could be used by CBC on future mission opportunities. If you would like more information or you are interested in knowing how you can support Jessica in her ministry in the D.R. please e-mail her at jlynnlauritsen@yahoo.com or call her at 402-660-3536. Information about Jessica's trip to the Dominican Republic as well as other happening may be seen on the 'Community Events Display (CED) outside the Fellowship Hall.



SUMMER MISSION TRIP

Miranda Bledsoe will be ministering through Campus Crusade for Christ this summer in San Diego, California. Miranda has been very actively involved with Campus Crusade through the school year, as a student at Doane College. Her deepest desire during this summer outreach is to share her faith in Jesus Christ with others, increase her knowledge of God's Word and deepen her relationship with Him. Miranda will be involved in Bible studies, outreaches on the beach, on area campuses and doing community service. If you would like more information or are interested to know how you can support Miranda in this ministry, please email her at Miranda.bledsoe@doane.edu or call her at 402-980-8404.

VBS VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP

Consider joining the team of volunteers to help make a fun-filled week of Bible learning for children ages 3 years to 6th grade (current school year). Adults and teens (current 7th-12th graders only, please) are needed to help as crew leaders, assist with crafts, games, snacks, and other areas. VBS will be held June 6 - 10, 2011, from 9am to noon. Sign-up online at the CBC website, at the Ministry Desk, or call Karen Green @ 402-426-5221.



PHIL GREEN LEADS MEN IN A SURVEY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

A person will never properly understand the New Testament Scriptures if the Old Testament Scriptures remain a mystery to him. The Old Testament is a redemptive history that lays the foundation upon which the New Testament is built. There is a progressive revelation in the Scriptures, and what is anticipated in the Old Testament is unfolded in the New Testament. To understand God's ways and His purposes in this age and for the future, and to enjoy the fellowship and support of other Christian men, come to this survey of the Old Testament. For more information e-mail Phil Green at philpcgreen@gmail.com.

CHILD DEDICATIONS AT CBC

Child Dedications will be on May 8th. It is a true joy to be a part of this special day for so many families as they dedicate their children to the Lord.



TWIN LAKES CAMP REGISTRATION

Twin Lakes Camp registration is now open for all current 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders. Registration information is available at the Ministry Desk and is due by May 15. Questions? Contact Becky Lacey 533-4613.

SPONSOR A CAMPER

Would you be willing to help send a kid to camp at Twin Lakes Christian Center? You can help by sponsoring a day(\$45), half week(\$135) or full week(\$270) for a camper. Pick up a sponsor form at the ministry desk and return to Becky Lacey by May 15.

ARGENTINA



J.D. & Heather Hall

Greetings from the Halls in Argentina!

Our time here has been flying. Again, what a privilege it is to be a part of what God is doing here in Córdoba. And what a blessing to have your prayer and support!

We've been doing a lot of renovation work in El Refugio the last month. Activities there will be starting back up soon now that summer break has ended. We've been scraping, painting, sanding, cleaning and making many much-needed repairs. The neighborhood boys stop by quite often to "help" - this usually means throwing paint around, and anything else that isn't nailed down, but sometimes they sweep or are genuinely productive. In these moments we have to remember that these boys are the reason we're here working. Everyone is excited for another year of classes, cooking, and lessons.

We started this new year at the boys' institute with the aim of visiting more often and meeting with the boys in smaller groups. It has been terrific. We find they behave much better and have warmed up to us significantly. In the past few weeks we've celebrated birthdays, played Foosball, gone to the park, the zoo, and the museum of natural sciences.

One of the boys, Rodrigo, likes to practice his, sometimes colorful, English with us. He likes to push the boundaries on our new behavior policy, but he always ends the day exchanging I Love You's with the girls who remind him that we are brothers and sisters in Christ.

A change in activities has Heather working more with the mothers of the children she taught last semester. It's a wonderful transition to hopefully making more of an impact in their homes. She visits families on a weekly basis, helps and encourages in the weekly mothers' meetings, and is starting an additional weekly workshop for mothers, teaching things like painting and craft projects. These mothers are Christians from a very poor neighborhood who attend our church, so this is a lovely opportunity to disciple and encourage young moms in our area.

Now for an encouraging story - an excerpt from Heather's journal last month...

2/18/11 ...Arrived at the Cultural Center for Don Hamman's Emotional Identity talk. Beforehand, I talked with two older ladies - Gladis and Amalia. Amalia is a believer, attends a local church called Crisol, and invited her 70 year old friend, Gladis, to come last minute to accompany her to Don's seminar. Gladis is single with no children and has a heart to serve others. We had a lovely chat before the seminar, and after Don's talk, we had an even lovelier one. Gladis accepted Christ. She said the Holy Spirit moved on her and she accepted him into her heart. Wow! I welcomed her to the family and we had a little celebration moment right then and there. I was so joyful and honored that I got to be there to see it happen. She and Amalia both asked me to pray for them - in Spanish and without a translator - eek! But God gave me the words and I think they understood, even without it being grammatically correct. Thank you, God, for bringing us to you, whether we're 7 or 70 - you never stop working in our lives. It's never too late!

As always, we're cleaning, cooking, and repairing things around the team house. We still enjoy spending time with the folks around the neighborhood and will certainly miss them when we're gone. We're very excited to see what God will do with us in our final two months here. It's all for His glory.

ARGENTINA

CONTINUED

Blessings – JD & Heather Hall

P.S. - Heather's parents came to visit us! Wow! What a fun time we had showing them around and eating all the best Argentinian food. Not to mention they brought us all sorts of goodies from home (e.g. JIF, Nutella, candy, etc.). Check out our blog to see photos: <http://jdandheatherhall.blogspot.com>

Prayer Requests:

- New activities: church youth group, “escuelita” - Sunday bible school for kids in our neighborhood
- Cultural Center: renovating a space for a local library/hang out spot for students in the area, specifically, that we would find the funding and labor for it
- El Refugio: finish renovating in time for classes, and that even more kids will come
- Las Violetas: this is the nearby neighborhood we work in that is very poor and very dangerous. Please pray for the safety of our church members who live there and that we would be a light there. Please also pray for the drug, alcohol and other abuses that are prevalent there.
- Senioritis: with only 2 months to go, it is easy to think of our future in the states, the jobs



awaiting us, and our friends and family. Please pray that God would keep us focused wholly on His will here in Cordoba to make as big of an impact as possible in our time left.

- Thanksgiving: Heather has already received a job offer. God has again showed us His faithfulness in providing for our needs. JD has started job hunting. We're excited to see what God has in store.

- Mothers of Las Violetas: Paula, Vanesa, and Natalia. These three are the younger mothers with whom Heather works.

- Boys from the Institute: Rodrigo, Rodrigo 2, Chechu, Sergio, Fabricio, Franko, and Santiago

- OM House Mates: Sharayah, Sarah, Joy, Stephanie, and Eva – that God will continue to guide and grow each of our teammates ministries and be an encouragement to them.

- Eva: Eva is the only local missionary living in our house and she is not fully supported. Being a missionary in your own country is very difficult, but it is so important to have witnesses in your own culture. Please pray that God would provide more friends and family members that would financially support her to be a light to her fellow Argentinians.

- OM Leadership: Samuel, Markus and Vanesa

S P R I N G 2 0 1 1

the *BANK family*

January - May



Greetings from Dallas, Texas!

We had an awesome, whirlwind Christmas back in Nebraska! There wasn't enough time in the day to do everything and see everyone. We came home wishing one week could've been two.

A visit from Nick's parents over the new year helped keep the Christmas blues away. From trips to the Museum of Natural Science, Children's Museum, and swimming in the hotel pool, we couldn't have had a better time! It was the perfect end to an amazing holiday, leaving Nick feeling refreshed and ready for his next challenging semester in Seminary.

Spring comes in February here in Texas, and with it comes all the glories of spring mess! Nick's job as a pool service technician went from a twenty-five hour a week healthy work out, to a thirty-six hour, work your body till you drop work out! It is in times like

these we are so thankful for Clay Wakefield and his expert knowledge on health and fitness he so kindly imparted to Nick before we left! If it wasn't for that knowledge Nick may very well be camped out in the hospital room trying to recover his health. Thanks Clay, you never knew how much you were helping us!

On top of the thirty-six hour work week, Nick is in class @ DTS twenty four hours each week. This does not include homework, it's all class time. By the time he gets home in the evening, his brain is on information overload, but there's no time to recover, it's shovel some dinner down his gullet and get to homework ASAP. It takes everything he has to stay awake and focused, only to wake up at five a.m. and get off to his pools to put in another 12 hour day. How does he do it? By the grace of God, and a lot of prayer!



Ahriana had her third birthday on March 28th. With all the presents from Grandparent's and friends, she had more of a birthday weekend than day! She was in seventh heaven getting

so many packages in the mail. For her birthday we took her to Grapevine Mills Mall to eat at the Rainforest Cafe, ride the carousel and the train. She had an amazing birthday and still hasn't

stopped talking about it. She is an amazing little lady, and we are so proud of her. She's learning to read & write her letters, and loves to point them out wherever she happens to see them.

Over spring-break Clay and Rachel Wakefield, Taylor Venema, and



Zach Borchardt came to visit us. What a blessing it was to have such good friends stay and live life with us for a few days. It was a crazy four days, and oh how we loved it! To be crazy with friends is always so therapeutic! They left us feeling encouraged and prepared to meet the last semester of the year.

Praises:

We are coming home May 14th and will stay until August 14th! We are so excited and are looking forward to reconnecting with our Church family!

We also have the wonderful opportunity to travel with CBC to Israel, and are extremely blessed to be able to experience such a life changing event! Nick will also be doing an independent study for DTS over this trip, and will be receiving 2 hrs. of Master's credit towards his degree.

Thanks to God's provision through our Church family and friends we were able to pay for all Nick's school books for 2nd Semester! A big thank



you goes out to all of you who have supported us this year. We could not have made it without you. Thank you for letting God work through you over



and above what we could ask or think!

Challenges:

The time demanded by work is making it increasingly difficult for Nick to fit school in with a healthy spiritual and family life. Because of God's grace Nick's getting almost all A's, but it is taking a toll on him mentally and physically, as well as giving him very little time with Ahriana and I. Your prayers have been felt and seen in our lives, and God is very present in every situation. For every trial, He brings a blessing. It is overwhelming watching Him work in our lives in this way. Thank you for your continued prayer & support! - God bless you all...

~Love, Kellie, Nick, & Ahriana~



my scrap page! :P

