



July 2008

Dear Friends,

After six months with no precipitation, rainy season began with a "bang." The first two weeks of June, rain and low visibility prevented flying on all but *one* day. Though Chuck flies less and does more maintenance now than he did in Mali, he is very fulfilled in his role here in Guatemala. Fairly often he is called to do medical evacuations of people in isolated locations. Recently he flew to a destination 40 minutes north of Guatemala City to pick up a 14-year old girl suffering from malnutrition and dehydration. Her very poor family had fashioned a makeshift wooden stretcher to carry her several hours to the airstrip *on foot!*



Whether Chuck is on the ground or in the air, he is assisted by Eri Alas, a Guatemalan member of AGAPE, the affiliate member of Mission Aviation Fellowship under which we work. A trained mechanic, Eri is responsible for helping Chuck with all the inspections, scheduling the flights, and flight-following the plane. He also helps with the youth program sponsored by AGAPE in the Ixil Triangle. Rosy, his wife, helps with the Sunday School teacher training program in the same area, and works in the AGAPE office in Guatemala City. They have a nine-month old daughter named Allison. Chuck and Eri have developed a friendship that goes beyond the airport.



Becca and Josh are enjoying their school break. Both of them spent six days at a camp for MKs (missionary kids) held every June in Guatemala. Josh attended as a camper, and Becca worked as a counselor. Despite some torrential afternoon rain, the camp was a total success. At the end of June, they helped with a community soccer outreach held at their school. About 70 Guatemalan kids, ages 7 through 14, participated in the activities, which included both

soccer instruction and Bible teaching. Becca and Josh definitely improved their Spanish soccer vocabulary over the course of the outreach! Esther, working as a counselor at Doe River Gorge Christian Camp in Tennessee, describes her summer as “challenging, but fun and fulfilling.” At least four of her campers have prayed to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.



Most recently, our family project has been to move to our “new” home, since the owners of the house we were staying in are returning to Guatemala at the end of July. Other than the fact that we do not have any living room furniture yet☺, we are basically settled, in a condominium complex very close to the kids’ school. Please note our new mailing address below.

While we were moving, I experienced some shortness of breath, so we decided to pay another visit to the cardiologist. Without going into all the details, the new tests show that it is now time for me to have open-heart surgery to replace my faulty aortic valve. We had already scheduled a trip to the U.S. at the end of July so that Becca could visit several colleges and we could all spend a vacation week with Esther. The doctor says we can make the trip, but should not delay the surgery more than three months. Our biggest dilemma is where to schedule the operation. Becca’s and Josh’s school starts on August 18, and the recovery period for the surgery is at least one month. Please join us in praying for wisdom, direction, and peace. Certainly none of this has caught our all-knowing Heavenly Father by surprise!

Praising God, because He is ALWAYS worthy of ALL praise,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan".

Susan Weatherstone

P.S. Praise God that the well digging team was able to complete four wells again this year during Mali’s dry season.

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NEW address: 8-A Calle 12-43 Sector A-10, San Cristobal, Zona 8 de Mixco, GUATEMALA

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