

Nicholas News

Summer 2005

Volume 2, Issue 6

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Praise the Lord!

- Gertrude's sister Flora—received a liver transplant on August 6th.
- New recruit Greta Woods is in Cameroun doing the Africa Orientation Course.
- Katherine Cooper has adjusted well to life and one year of service in Cameroon and plans to marry another missionary next year.
- Increased number of African Americans interested in Wycliffe Bible Translators.
- We had a very smooth, safe move of our furniture and things to Dallas.
- We experienced the wonderful love and aid of brothers and sisters in Christ in the move and in our suffering and grief this summer.

Moving to Dallas

Gertrude and I have moved to Dallas! I am sure you are wondering how this has come about. It is hard for us to believe as well. First of all, I do want to let you know that we are still a part of Wycliffe Bible Translators and still involved in recruiting others. However, I made a change of focus for the next two to three years. Before I continue with what is happening now, let me explain how we came to this decision.

For the last few years I have been given more and more opportunities to speak and even preach about missions at different churches. In the spring of 2004, Gertrude and I started to consider the idea of my attending seminary. I mentioned my interest to Gertrude's pastor, Dr. Lane, and he strongly encouraged me to enroll at Dallas Theological Seminary (DTS). I started the application process and a few months later I received a letter of acceptance from DTS to work towards a Master of Cross-Cultural Ministries. As the Lord began to provide for us with a place to stay right on campus, and a scholarship that pays half of the tuition, we could only give thanks to the Lord for His provision for us to move in this direction.

Now that everything was set for us at DTS, the next step was to move to Dallas. We had lived in Orlando since we got married, so it was hard to think of packing everything up for the move. Even here we saw the Lord's provision. We were able to move our things very economically using JAARS Trucking. (JAARS is a partner organization of Wycliffe that provides different services for Wycliffe missionaries). A group of friends from Wycliffe came to help load the truck on July 29. I then left for Dallas as Gertrude stayed in Florida. (Gertrude shares more about this below.) On Aug 2, the truck arrived at our apartment, and again we had friends in the Dallas area help unload the truck and help me begin to get our place setup.

I have been asked, "What will you do after you finish seminary?" Initially, we plan to continue working in Wycliffe mobilization (recruitment). There is such a tremendous need to get more people involved in the work of Bible Translation. Nevertheless, seminary training opens a few new ministry options. We trust the Lord will show us His will when that time comes.

—Kevin

Garrett Family News

It never ceases to amaze me how the Lord orchestrates major (and minor) events of our lives. June was our last month at the Wycliffe USA office in Orlando. It was a time of good-byes and farewells to dear friends in Orlando. July 4th week-end my family held the Garrett Family Re-Union in Longview, TX. Even Flora was able to make this event. All was well. Then later in the month, Kevin and I went to Richmond, VA to attend the Knight Family Re-Union. It was there I received the news that my father was in the hospital. The next

week we were back in Orlando for final packing and transportation of our worldly goods to Dallas. Only Kevin went on ahead to help unload the truck while I stayed in Tampa to be with Flora who by this time was in dire need of a liver transplant. Doctors were saying that she was first on the list and would probably have a new liver within a month. So, I stayed to assure that she ate nourishing food to strengthen her for the surgery. In the meantime, Daddy's situation became grave and the Garrett family was gathering again to be at his bedside. Flora, George and I waited

Continued on the next page.

Family Life (continued)*My Daddy, Demris Garrett in July*

in Tampa to hear how things were going with Daddy. Flora and I surmised that our dear Daddy was losing ground and we began to reflect upon his life, to sing the hymns he loved so well and grieve for him. To stay with Flora in Tampa or go to Texas became my dilemma. I am

grateful for the sober advice of family and friends because a few days earlier Daddy expressed how happy he was that I was there with Flora. Daddy departed this world on August 7th—just hours after Flora received the liver transplant. I held my grief while she was in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). When she woke up, she asked about Daddy. For the time being I simply said he was “doing better.” He was in a better place. She had to know but it was best to wait until she was out of ICU. And the Lord did give grace to wait for the best time. We rejoiced with her that she now had a new lease on life and tried to think now about her plans for the future. When the time was right, George and I let Flora know that Daddy had died. It was a difficult moment for us all and then Flora said, it was ‘a life for a life’ as Daddy seemed to go about the same time Flora received a liver. Once Flora knew that Daddy was gone, I left her with her husband, George, and made preparations to join Kevin and the rest of the Garrett clan in Longview. I was glad I stayed with Flora because it was

the last thing Daddy wanted me to do. We thank God for the liver donor and that Flora is on the road to recovery. We praise God for how he orchestrated all these events. We thank God for the wonderful father we had for so many

*Flora with daughter Nicole and son Jimmy*

years. We look forward to seeing him again one day. In the meantime, we trust God to help the Garrett family through this season of grief.

—Gertrude



Please respond to us by email, if possible, so that we may send our letters to you by email.

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For financial gifts, please indicate in writing your interest in the ministry of:
Gertrude and Kevin Nicholas

Write the check to:
Wycliffe Bible Translators
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*Prayer Points***Prosperity and blessing**

on our partners in Bible Translation. That's you!

Don and Sharon

Hutchisson as they complete translation of the Sursurunga New Testament in Papua New Guinea. Pray for their co-translator, Sian, who continues to be in poor health.

Fruitfulness in ministry

resulting in an increase in African Americans going to the mission field. We are praying for 24 career members this year.

Continued support and

prayers of our financial partners as we seek to involve others in Bible translation.

Salvation of unsaved family members; health and strength of our parents and siblings.

Our spiritual and physical stamina as we face challenges in ministry as a married couple.

Comfort of Gertrude's family: comfort in grief at the death of her father.

Kevin as he begins studies at Dallas Theological Seminary.

Two full-time assistants Safety in travel—in the USA.

Success of the Urban Ministries Mission reality video—that it will be used effectively by 5500+ churches. And Wycliffe missionaries will be able to share personally in these churches about the ministry of Bible translation.

Opportunities to recruit and mentor DTS students from Kevin's classes as well as people living in married students' housing.

Full recovery for Flora.

Wisdom in approaching new ministry opportunities among churches in this area of the USA.

Gertrude as she focuses 100% of her time in recruitment throughout the USA, especially in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Arkansas.

Thank you for partnering with us ...
...in His service,

Kevin and Gertrude