

le Bulletin Bonin

Winter 2005

Adventures in THE ODYSSEY

You may be familiar with the children's radio broadcast by Focus on the Family, Adventures in Odyssey (highly recommended, by the way). Well, we've been having our own adventures in THE Odyssey — the Honda Odyssey, that is— since we began our 25,000 miles-plus trek across America in June. Our family (yes, all 7 of us) has traveled through 18 states, eaten in 43 DIFFERENT Cracker Barrels, stayed in thousands of hotels, and listened to a kazillion Odyssey episodes, all in our quest to report on the work in Belgium, cast missions vision, and at the same time raise our budget so we can get back as soon as possible. (Ok, maybe the number of Cracker Barrels and hotels was a bit exaggerated, but NOT the Odyssey episodes!) It has been an awesome privilege to meet so many new friends along the way. You have all been a great encouragement to us as God has knit our hearts together. **Thank you** for your hospitality and faithful support.

Meanwhile, back in Belgium, the **SFC ministry** is continuing just fine without us. That's the goal, isn't it? We are astounded at the regular reports we are getting back from SFC leaders of new visitors and students coming to faith in Christ. Activities in which God has used SFC students this semester include (but are definitely not limited to) the 24-hour bike race, a missions trip to serve the Chi Alpha at ULL, the annual SFC-Belgium retreat, and others shown below. We are anticipating planting more groups and seeing other new doors open up as God enables us to pass the baton of leadership to gifted students and workers.



These guys had a great Alpha weekend retreat. Everyone who went "can't wait till the next one."



Here's the group that helped students move in at the beginning of the semester. The back of the shirt reads, "Not to be served but to serve."



Movie nights are always a hit with college students. Here are 3 new faces enjoying the fun, food and discussion.



In front of the Gettysburg Address display in the cemetery of Shiloh National Park. The girls had a good review of reciting it (mostly) from memory after learning it a few years ago.

Family Matters

Along with the sometimes daunting task of getting to meetings on time while living out of suitcases, we have been able to experience some of the greatest school field trips. Travel journals are keeping our children occupied and giving them an opportunity to reflect on the marvels of man and especially the creative handiwork of God. Some of the highlights have been a Civil War battleground, Mammoth Cave, the world's largest cave system, prize-winning thoroughbreds, the Gateway Arch, the Florida Gulf coast, and everybody's favorite, Niagara Falls. We truly believe the life-education our children are receiving this itineration will be treasured for many years to come.

Prayer Matters

Please pray with us that God would send us the funds we need for our budget so we can return to Belgium by mid-February. (We recognize that HE is our source, and we know that God has chosen to use PEOPLE to help accomplish His will in the earth. With that in mind, we'd like to apprise you of the opportunities afforded by end-of-the-year giving. Not only can it provide a tax deduction as a charitable contribution, but it is an excellent way of accelerating the Great Commission and extending the Kingdom of God. Would you then prayerfully consider a monetary gift or monthly support toward our next 4-year term?) Thank you for believing in God's call on our lives.

Thank you for praying for our families. In the past few months, some of them have gone through some pretty serious health issues, but God has been faithful. We would also ask that you pray for God's hand of protection on our family as we travel.

May God's best be yours this Christmas season and throughout the new year.

Blair & Dina Bonin
Callie, Claire, Evangeline, Christopher & David

THE BUDGET



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