

August 2009

# Toews Update

*More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of.*

~ by Alfred Lord Tennyson



**Gott Kann - GOD Can**

Now to HIM who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to HIS power that is at work within us, to HIM be Glory in the church and in CHRIST JESUS throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. Eph 3:20 - 21 (NIV)

Greetings in the NAME of our LORD JESUS CHRIST! What a beautiful cool summer we have had, but there has been very little rain. We had a wonderful rain the end of May. Since then we have had a couple of light rains of maybe 3/100 of an inch each. As dry as the land is here, so is the spiritual climate of people's walk with the LORD. Oh how we pray for the Hopi people!

We thank GOD for refreshing us in a variety of ways. Our personal and family Bible reading and prayer time is a great refreshment, along with fellowship with those who are serious about following JESUS. We are also refreshed by the opportunities GOD gives us to go visit people who love The LORD and by those who come to visit us.

What a blessed year we have had! Through designated gifts from some of GOD'S servants, GOD gave us the opportunity to go to Pennsylvania for the missions conference that Lucas was part of with the team he was with in Ghana. We were refreshed and blessed by the conference and the

sweet fellowship we had there. From there we had the blessing of spending a couple of days with new friends in Vermont, with a side trip to the Maine coast to see the Atlantic Ocean. Later we were again blessed to go to Washington/Idaho for Jeremy's graduation/Russ' parent's 60th anniversary celebration.

During these travels, GOD gave us many wonderful opportunities to share about the work HE has given us to do. We have had sweet one on one time with many friends who pray for and love us, as well as meeting a number of dear brothers and sisters for the first time. The visitors that came to see us have also been a great blessing to us! They have come from all across the country, both near and far, and even the Bahamas ☺. GOD has blessed us so richly with wonderful friends!

We thank our LORD for his gracious goodness to us, for creating such a beautiful world, and for HIS amazing blessing of HIS provisions so that we can live here on the Hopi Reservation sharing HIS truth to a dry and thirsty land.



Water Holes Canyon, AZ - hiking a slot canyon on Nathaniel's 21st birthday

In our last newsletter we shared our excitement about putting the Hopi New Testament into audio. This would allow the many Hopis who cannot read the Hopi language to hear The Gospel in their own language. This idea generated a bit of excitement and for several weeks there were interested Hopis that were gathering here to practice reading the New Testament in Hopi, in preparation for when we could start the recording. However, as time has gone on it seems that the holder of the copyright, American Bible Society, is either unwilling or simply not getting around to granting written permission for the recording process. We don't understand why this is, but we continue to pray and trust GOD for an outcome that will bring HIM honor and glory. One possible solution may be to actually revise the translation enough that the copyright issue would no longer be a problem. (which actually would be a good idea except that it would take a long time) Please pray with us for a redemptive resolution to this situation.



Practicing reading the Hopi Bible

For the five weeks of July we had a VBS/Children's ministry four days a week. This kept us very busy when added to the ongoing Sunday School and spending time with children in the yard! GOD guided us in putting together Bible teachings for each week, focusing on issues the children face here at Hopi. Each day we had games, a Bible story time, memory verses, snacks, songs, and crafts. Fridays were our "special" days when we would have a cookout for lunch and each child would make their own bag of homemade ice cream! It was so much fun and very tiring! Most days we had between fifteen and twenty children in attendance.

Many times during the month, several of the children would stay after we dismissed and work on their memory verses trying to get them all memorized. By the end of the five weeks some of the children learned all eighteen memory verses. What a blessing!! Each week we made a craft that had the memory verse on it to be put up in the children's homes so the children would be reminded to keep working on their memory verses at home and so the parents would see the verses too.

This structured Children's time was wrapped up with a cookout and program for the parents. The children sang their songs and recited their memory verses. We made copies of the songs and verses for the parents to follow along. This helped the Word of GOD to reach the parents lives too.

We were very blessed to have Melissa Smith come back and help us out for the last two weeks. The timing was great as Roxane ended up on bed rest with her pregnancy. Bryce Miller and Nathaniel were also a tremendous help!



Craft time



Studying memory verses



Children's story time- Melissa in the back preparing snacks



Singing Songs- Nathaniel in the back ground getting into the song's motions.

*Family news—Lucas*



Lucas loaded and heading to PA— yes, those are antlers on top of the car with the spare tire!

Lucas was in Pennsylvania for about a month in Jan/Feb for the mission's conference. He and another team member from Ghana sensed GOD leading them to move to PA. Lucas is adjusting well to PA life. He has a good job. He is very involved in his church and in mission training. He is answering GOD'S commission to build The Kingdom among unreached peoples and is pursuing training in that regard. As one step in the process he is leaving for an exploratory mission trip in mid September. We are blessed to see Lucas discerning and following the direction GOD has for his life. We know GOD will provide wisdom and discernment for him in this process.



Lucas with Ghana team sharing at the mission's conference

Lucas' new address - 1319 Oaklyn Dr. Narvon, PA 17555 e-mail address - [luketoews@gmail.com](mailto:luketoews@gmail.com)

*Family news—Jeremy*

The end of May Jeremy graduated from Moody Bible Institute's (MBI) five year mission aviation program. One of the requirements to complete the course was for the class to fly a cross-country trip from Spokane to Arizona and back. They flew down the mountains and back up the coast of CA. We had the blessing of hosting Jeremy's class for one night during their trip!

Jeremy's summer was busy with Spokane Turbine Center (STC), flying the Kodiak to various mission conferences. In conjunction with MBI and Quest, STC is a non-profit organization teaching people to fly and to maintain the Kodiak airplane that is made by Quest. Jeremy has worked for Quest the past 3 years.



Jeremy with family after graduation



Jeremy lifting off from the Hopi airport

Jeremy has been asked by both STC and MBI to be an instructor. Currently he is taking classes with MBI to become a Certified Flight Instructor (CFI & CFII). In Nov. he will start instructing with STC until next summer when he may switch to MBI. These are stepping stones to the mission field. He needs to build more flying and maintenance experience to make his skills more viable on the mission field. He hopes to have the hours he needs and be ready to go in the next couple of years. Jeremy's new address - 3824 E. Frederick Ave. Spokane, WA 99217 e-mail address - [airmail2date@gmail.com](mailto:airmail2date@gmail.com)

*Family news—Nathaniel*

Recently GOD is leading Nathaniel to work in a recording ministry alongside Faith Comes By Hearing (FCBH). He will be training in Albuquerque, New Mexico for the next couple of months. Then he will start traveling all over North America recording the New Testament for Native American language groups. This is the same ministry that we will be working with to do the Hopi recording once we get the go ahead. It is a very exciting opportunity for him. Nathaniel enjoys computer tech work, photography, photo editing, nature, traveling, and most of all serving his LORD. This seems like a wonderful opportunity to combine many of his different interests. We will greatly miss having Nathaniel around to help us here at Hopi. We know the children in the village will really miss him too. At the same time, we are really excited to see him moving on to what GOD is calling him to do.



Nathaniel enjoying GOD'S creation and photography

Nathaniel's e-mail address - [nathanieltoews@gmail.com](mailto:nathanieltoews@gmail.com)



The Miller family

On August 8th, Jim and Roxane Miller, (the family that works with us) had a baby boy, Matthew James. He weighed 6 lbs. They had planned on having a home birth, which is much less expensive than a hospital birth, but due to Matthew coming a month early they ended up with a hospital birth instead. Because Matthew was a preemie, he had the opportunity of a longer hospital stay. We are all very thankful that Roxane and Matthew are healthy! If you would like to get in touch with them, their e-mail address is [jimrox7@gmail.com](mailto:jimrox7@gmail.com)



Matthew says "HI"

### Praises

- We are excited about the direction GOD is giving our sons.
- Praise for Jim and Roxane's healthy baby.
- We are blessed to have the opportunity to speak life and hope into people's lives that are a mess from bad choices.
- It is a blessing to be able to reach out and minister to the various needs we see around us.
- Praise GOD for health, strength, and provision in our lives and our boy's lives.



Sons are a heritage from The LORD,  
children a reward from HIM.  
Like arrows in the hands of a warrior  
are sons born in one's youth.  
Blessed is the man  
whose quiver is full of them.  
They will not be put to shame  
when they contend with their  
enemies in the gate.  
Ps 127:3-5

### Prayer requests

- Pray for safe travels for all the different directions our sons will be going.
- Pray that GOD will somehow open the way for the recording of the Hopi New Testament to take place.
- Pray that GOD will grow HIS Kingdom here at Hopi.
- Pray for GODLY workers to help with the ministry needs.
- *Tell us how we can pray for you, so that we may encourage one another.*

This whole endeavor/ministry that GOD has called us to is a team effort. You are like Aaron and Hur holding up Moses' arms so that the battle may be won. You hold us up so that we may continue in the battle. It sometimes seems the progress is slow compared with other fields, but when we begin to get a bit discouraged GOD encourages us and reminds us that HE is working in hearts in ways that we do not always see. We are called to be faithful. We know in these tough economic times it is difficult to make ends meet and we are so blessed by the faithfulness of GOD, and those HE calls, to keep meeting our needs. Thank-you for your faithful prayers and support. Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-11

*Love, Russell, Cynthia, Lucas, Jeremy, and Nathaniel*

We are richly blessed and encouraged by all of you who pray for us and bless us in so many ways! In an effort to keep expenses down, we would like to send these newsletters out by e-mail as much as possible. If you are receiving this by snail mail, and have an e-mail address we could send it to instead, please let us know what your e-mail address is.

We would love to hear from you.

If you wish to receive any of our sons' updates, please contact them.

If you know of others who would like to receive our newsletter please have them contact us. If you want to be removed from our mailing list please let us know.

Russell & Cynthia Toews  
P. O. Box 711 Hotevilla, AZ 86030  
Home phone: 928/734-1564  
E-mail: [toewsrock@gmail.com](mailto:toewsrock@gmail.com)

If GOD leads you to be involved in this ministry in a financial way, gifts may be sent to the address above or *tax deductible* donations may be sent to:  
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