

The Bogle Bugle

July 3 2008

for our Partners in Bible Translation



The rest of the youth mission team and I plan to join Lily and the girls in Honduras today, July 3rd.

Contact us!

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About the Author

Tom Bogle is an ardent procrastinator who lives by the motto: "Never do today what you can avoid doing altogether." He began this letter in early May, later re-cast it as a June newsletter, and with some luck and uncharacteristically good time management will e-mail it just before departing Charlotte. If you read the left column on page 2 carefully, you will recognize it as an "excuse T-shirt" for why we haven't done a better job staying in touch. Thanks to those who have held our feet to the fire, or you might never hear from us!

Heading to Honduras

Once again you have proven yourselves beyond faithful in supplying our needs to go where the Lord is leading us. We thank God for providing through so many of you to enable us to lead a team from our church to Honduras. Now we ask that you continue steadfast in prayer, as it is obvious that the enemy is mounting a fierce opposition.

On May 30, Taca flight 390 overran the runway while landing at the Toncontin Airport in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, killing the pilot, 2 passengers, and two people on the ground. In response, President Zelaya closed the airport to large aircraft. Lily and the girls were scheduled to fly into that airport on June 25, in advance of the rest of the group. But the closure forced them instead to fly into San Pedro Sula, 4-5 hours to the north. In a few hours (i.e., before you even receive this letter) the rest of the team will be following them. This change in route is going to result in some extra expenses and reduce our time for ministry in Tegucigalpa, but we know that God has His purposes. Anyway, the team will be able to see a lot more of the country this way.

Lord willing our team will arrive in Honduras today and be there through the 14th. We will be working with children, doing crafts and puppet presentations as an aid to evangelism and teaching. We will also be painting, tiling, and doing other light construction to finish some classrooms at a church in La Cañada. And we'll be encouraging and learning from our brothers and sisters in Christ. Pray that our efforts would bear fruit and bring glory to our Great God.

You can also pray especially for one of our team members, Pam Grant. Last month her apartment building burned to the ground. (You may have seen it on the news — it was the big fire in Peabody, MA). She was at work, but she lost all her stuff: her luggage, her clothes, her computer, her photos, and her passport! We praise God that she was able to get a replacement passport quickly and that her co-workers have stepped up to help outfit her with the things she needs for the trip.

If you want to pray for the rest of our team by name, the other members — in addition to the four of us — are: Zach, Brandon, and Bryan.



Even before the trip has officially started, one member of our advance team has already had a chance to share the Gospel. I talked to Joylily on the phone this week, and she told me how she had been able to share the gospel with a man sitting next to her on the plane. He was very interested and had a lot of questions. And he expressed surprise that a girl half his age could answer some of the questions he had. Please pray that the Holy Spirit would convict Wilmar of his spiritual need and of God's surpassing grace to meet that need.

A Little Game to Keep Your Mind Sharp This Summer

You're too busy enjoying your summer to read a whole newsletter all at once, right? So here's what you do: Every day, read one little blurb from the left column, find the matching prayer request in the right column, pray for it, and then go back to your fishing, gardening, golfing, swimming or whatever. When you're all done, you could maybe have a friend from church check your answers, and ask them to pray for us, too.

What's Been Happening

___ 1. In February, we began a big push to implement some major new features in Translation Editor (TE): Scripture Checks, displaying external resources, and collaboration support.

___ 2. I took a trip up to Minnesota and Wisconsin March 28-April 7 to speak at a couple churches and see my family. I had a good time helping make maple syrup, playing Settlers, and bowling with my brother John's youth group.

___ 3. TE team member Mike Lothers went to Tanzania to begin our relationship with our new focus group there. He learned a lot about their style of collaboration and how TE might help them.



___ 4. Once again our family walked in the H.E.L.P. Crisis Pregnancy Center's Walk-a-thon this spring. We also helped with set-up and tear-down, and I got to spend some time in the dunk tank.

___ 5. While helping a church record puppet scripts for *their* mission trip to Honduras, we got inspired us to make, buy and borrow puppets for our trip. Making performance-style puppets is harder than it looks!

___ 6. In May, long-time TE team member and technical guru, Eberhard Beilharz, returned to Germany. His wife isn't well, and he has been looking to shift over to work on the Linux port of our software. We expect some on-going long-distance help from him, but he has left a gaping hole in our team.

___ 7. In June, we had an all night lock-out with our youth. Serious jet-lag without leaving the state!

___ 8. In June, long-term volunteer Tim Steenwyk left us. He was the last guy on the team capable of solving "views code" and "undo" problems. Ouch!

How You Can Pray

- A. Pray for the ministry of the H.E.L.P. Crisis Pregnancy Center, where Lily and the girls serve as volunteers. There are a lot of Hispanic ladies being drawn nearer to God through the Bible study Lily conducts there.
- B. Tim still doesn't have a job. Pray for the Lord's leading in his life and that He would send us a competent person to fill the huge hole.
- C. Pray that our puppet ministry would be effective. We've only had one practice session as a team.
- D. Pray for our on-going plans and efforts to stay connected with supporters. It's often hard to schedule trips that meet the needs of churches and fit in with our family's plans. Now with gas prices up so high, it's hard to even think about taking a road trip.
- E. Pray for our youth ministry. After our pastor returns from his sabbatical, we're supposed to start looking for a youth pastor, but our church is feeling the financial squeeze, so we need God to give us wisdom and lead us to the right person, if that's His will.
- F. Praise God for providing for our trip expenses. Although the flagging economy is causing many ministries to struggle, God met our need!
- G. To accomplish all we've been asked to do this year, I have had to do a lot more design and analysis work (remember, we lost our analyst last fall), which has really stretched me. Pray for good time management and team cooperation.
- H. Pray for Eberhard and Cornelia Beilharz and their two children as they re-settle in Germany. Pray that we would be able to survive without Eberhard's genius. Ask God to send more brilliant software developers to work with us.



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Our financial support is holding together okay, I guess. Update on that and more, bigger pictures in the next letter, which we'll try to write shortly after we get back from Honduras...

All for His glory!



P.S. Lily has completed her initial training as a Stephen Minister and was commissioned on June 8.