



Mike, Beth, and Leigh Matheson

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Milestones

Dear friends and family,

As I sit here, with a fire in our wood stove and signs of life and love scattered around the living room, thankfulness comes easily. The holidays are rolling in, bringing with them all of their excitement and busyness, and I am grateful for a chance to slow down and reflect on the gifts God has given us. This year, for us, has been a season of joy.

Here are just a few of the things we are thankful for:

- In June, we were finally able to begin our ministry to missionary families. We love what we do, and the ministry is thriving!
- We have experienced God's protection as we travel. Our car, which has over 235,000 miles on it is still functioning.
- Our house did not catch fire recently when an electrical short in the dryer melted the outlet box.
- Leigh loves first grade and has a wonderful teacher.
- We are healthy and happy.

We're moving. . . a mile away

For the past three years, we have been renting a 750 sq/ft. trailer. This has been fine, although tight at times, for our little family. However, the size of our house makes it difficult to host missionary families for meals or to hold youth activities in our home. Last month, some friends approached us about renting their much larger house while they are overseas for the next few years. We will be moving in mid-January. So if you're passing through our area and need a place to stay, let us know. We'll have two extra bedrooms!

Read about
"A week in the life of
the Mathesons" at:

www.mk youthpastor.com



The Leigh-Monkey in her natural habitat

We helped to host a reentry retreat for 11 students that transitioned this summer. It was a great time getting to know them, and giving them tools to cope with the transitions that life as an MK brings. We also took them to a local Mexican flea market, where they were able to buy tropical fruits and vegetables from their home countries.



Mike, talking with a student at the reentry retreat.

Financial Update

Over seventy of you have committed to partner with us financially. We are grateful for your generous hearts! Unfortunately, throughout the summer and, especially, the fall, we have seen a steady decrease in the amount being given for our ministry. We have a number of partners who have had to stop giving due to personal circumstances and several more who have simply forgotten. We receive only what our partners contribute, so the Fall has been difficult financially. Also, our living expenses will increase slightly when we move. Please pray for us and consider becoming a regular partner or giving a special gift.

If you would like to become a prayer or advocate partner, please send us a note letting us know. If you would like to partner with us financially, or to give us a special gift, please send your gift to the Wycliffe address below and be sure to include a separate note that says "For the ministry of Mike and Beth Matheson."

Thank you for your prayers for us! Please let us know if you would like any more information on our ministry, or if you would like to be removed from our mailing list.

In Christ,

Mike, Beth, + Leigh

Mike had the chance to take 19 students on a mission trip to West Virginia. We went with Operation Warm Up to pass out warm clothing to the poor in the mountains. One student remarked, "Their living conditions remind me of Africa." One of the boys we met (pictured below) has severe asthma as a result of the coal dust in the air.



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