

## Touching the World By Sending Workers Into God's Harvest

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# SUMMER'S END— FALL'S BEGINNING

It was quite an amazing summer. After covering over 6000 miles this summer, 18 states plus the District of Columbia, our car is ready for a rest. We are too for that matter! But summer's end means fall is ready to start. Here's what happened.

### **PARTNER VISITS**

We had a really wonderful time seeing our ministry partners, first in the Pennsylvania area, and then between here and Colorado on our way to and from the staff conferences. It was a route we haven't taken before, so many of these folks we had not seen in years. We were encouraged by their stories and seeing their growing families. God has given us such a great team to pray for us and provide for us so we can serve Him!

#### STILL WATERS

There were nearly 400 staff and their

families at the Still Waters conference in Winter Park, CO. This conference is designed to encourage our U.S. staff who serve overseas. We attended 2 years ago, but this time we enjoyed serving these special folks. We were delighted to meet staff who minister in Russia and Kazakhstan, East Asia and our own beloved Japan (see picture).

Rochelle served these families in the "Global Kids ConneXion" program, helping 23 children understand their significance as third-culture kids (TCKs). We studied the life of Moses, a Biblical TCK!

Steve served by leading small group discussions and conducting personal interviews. It was

so exciting to hear the stories of what God has been doing with these staff from Chili, East Asia, France and beyond.

This retreat provided our missionaries with time to reflect on God, and their good and hard experiences on



the field. We helped create a supportive environment where they felt understood.

#### **US STAFF CONFERENCE**

There is just nothing like a US staff conference with CCC. Being part of a gathering of 5000 staff worshiping the Lord together is so moving and encouraging! We were really



Our family with the Bannisters, friends from Japan CCC



Tim Keller at US Staff Conference



**Steve Douglass** 

blessed by and enjoyed the teaching of Tim Keller and Keith Battle along with CCC's Steve Douglass and Steve Sellers.

Their messages encouraged us to really lay down the performance lifestyle and allow the grace of the Lord to be communicated through us. We were challenged

to really listen and discern how God is at work in those we are trying to reach.

It was exciting to hear from staff who

serve in countries normally thought closed to Christianity. It is amazing to hear about God's work around the world! We also rejoiced as we watched the 350



**New Staff Entering Arena** 

new U.S. staff walk joyfully into the arena to join with us in full-time ministry.

After the conference, we enjoyed a wonderful vacation with Steve's brother and his family near Denver and Steve's parents joined us from CA! A highlight for Steve was working together to build an extension on a play structure. Melissa, Josh and their cousins had fun painting it too. Red paint everywhere!

#### **FALL STARTS**

A big change for us this fall is that we decided to home school Melissa. She is very excited to study at home online, although she will continue with choir at school. Josh started 1st grade, and Ben's college classes started again. We are all busy!

Steve is now back to work and is thank-



Sending Team August 2009

ing God for the provision of 3 new staff members for the Sending Team! Please pray that we can work well together to get the laborers to the harvest fields.

#### SUPPORT NEEDS

We are continuing to trust God for His provision for our family. It has been a challenging time to find new supporters in this economy, and so we still need an additional \$1900/month. Steve will be visiting Dallas and California this fall. Please pray with us

that our needs will be met.

Thank you so much for being part of God's care for those who lift up His name to nations who have not heard His good news! God bless you!

With love and thanks, Steve, Rochelle, Andy, Ben, Melissa and Josh