

## Declaring God's Praises for 2012

Oh, give thanks to the LORD! Call upon His name; **Make known His deeds** among the peoples! Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; **Talk of all His wondrous works**. Let the hearts of those **rejoice** who seek the Lord! Psalm 105:1-3.

**Africa** – God provided funds for our three months of ministry in Kenya, Zambia and South Africa. We have previously shared the highlights of His works accomplished there. You may see the African Trip Reports on our web site DeJongMinistries.com.

**Family** – We are forever grateful for the family God has given us and His work in their lives. This is a time to share bits and pieces from their lives.

**Miatke family: Bruce and Rhonda Arney** – Dalton, OH. Bruce is a large equipment mechanic. Rhonda is a teacher - intervention specialist - at the middle school. She has found that a gluten and casein free diet and a special medication has greatly improved her battle with MS. Their son **Shawn Siciliano** lives at home, is a student at Akron University and has a part time job.

**Ray** - Ashland, OR. Ray is a carpenter and a musician. **Lela** (12), plays fiddle and sings lead in their family bluegrass band. **Rainy** (almost 10), plays mandolin. sings, writes songs and leads their band. For Christmas, we received their first professional CD. His oldest, **Desiree**, and husband Chris live in Ashland. Sorry we don't have a picture of them to include.

**Rex and Kim** – Wayne, NJ. Rex is a newspaper district manager. Kim continues to suffer the discomforts of Crohn's disease but God gives her the strength to work her job in administrative social work. Both in eighth grade, **Dacey** plays drums and **Madison** plays French horn and trumpet, recently performing in an all area band concert. Their oldest, **Baxter**, is an environmental engineering major at University of Vermont. He also excels in music and is a ski instructor.

**De Jong family: Paul and Sandy** – Augusta, GA. Their photography business is struggling. Sandy works as a church secretary. Paul has a big garden – vegetables and fruit trees. He teaches an Adult Bible Class at Warren Baptist Church. **Recently, he fractured his knee cap and had surgical repair, his tendon reattached, and has a cast. Please pray for a good recovery.**

**Daniel and Heather** – Jackson, GA. He is an Associate/Youth Pastor. Heather home schools **Vita** (14), **Raylyn** (11), **Hannah** (10), **Stephen** (7) and **Andrew** (4). **Vita was adopted from Latvia in October** (process still ongoing). They have to return to Latvia two more times for finalization.

**Tim and Lorie** – Harlem, GA. Tim is a missionary builder, and leads mission teams to Mexico and Peru. Lorie does the book work and enjoys being grandma.

**Patrick and Heather Lawrence** – Atlanta, GA. Patrick is computer tech support for a manufacturing company and Heather works in the After Care Program for a Christian school.

**Caleb** (7 ½) is in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. He enjoys Boy Scouts and excels at chess.

**Nathan and Joyce** – Oxford, GA. Nathan works at Oxford College in web development and Joyce enjoys being at home with **Evie** (4), **Wesley** (2), and preparing for a new baby in March.

**James and Kyleen** – Kisumu, Kenya. James is teaching Bible and Theology at Great Lakes University. Kyleen is homeschooling **Rehema** (12), and **Ngina** (11). **Njema** (15) is a boarding student at Rift Valley Academy and excels in sports. **Please pray God will help them find the appropriate house for their family (large enough for guests and with low visibility) and also provide safety surrounding the elections March 4.**

**Heidi** – Columbia, SC, owns her own cleaning business. **Mitchel** (8) is in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. **Heidi has a torn rotator cuff and will have surgery 2/15. Pray for a good recovery and God's financial provision.**

**Brian and Stefani** – Harlem, GA. Brian is a wood craftsman and Stefani home schools **Owen** (11) and **Zander** (9). We celebrate **Erin** Elizabeth, born **1/14/2013**.

**Brian and Sheila Weller** – Dunn, NC. Brian is an airplane mechanic at Pope Air Force Base in training for missionary aviation. Sheila enjoys being homemaker and mom of **Myles** Parker, born **9/24/2012**.

**Philip and Kami** – St. Louis, MO. Philip works for a cemetery vault company and Kami is a counselor.

**Mark and Ruth** – Bradenton, FL. Mark's business has been blessed with being able to persevere though difficult economic times. We trust the Lord to bring increase in the year ahead. Ruth owns Ruth Naomi Designs – Calendars, note cards and artwork. She writes an inspiring blog - [www.ruthidejong.wordpress.com](http://www.ruthidejong.wordpress.com) .

**Mike and Veronica Reichman** – Bradenton, FL. Mike is a middle school guidance counselor. Veronica enjoys homemaking and being mom of **Joshua** (1 ½) and expecting a new addition in about six months.

**Jesse and Amber Jacobs** – West Palm Beach, FL. Jesse owns a wheel repair business and is sales manager for a food distribution company, PFG. Amber enjoys being homemaker and mom of **Jaxon** (almost 3) and **Evelyn** Elizabeth, born **2/8/2012**.

We hope you enjoy the pictures of each of our family members below.

**Adopted family** – We have become “temporary parents” to three young adult fatherless refugees in Africa, whose widowed mother, has been wrongfully imprisoned for a sentence of 21 months. They are excellent students, with good character and we feel privileged to know them. We share the responsibilities for their monthly support with two kind hearted friends of their mother, in Chicago. God has again provided continued funds for their schooling, over and above their daily needs. God be praised. **Please pray for a job for the oldest** who has just graduated from college with a degree in International Business Administration.

**Health** – God gave David and me the healthiest year yet in 2012 with fewer doctor visits and medications. David learned that coffee was a big aggravator of his rash. The Dutchman who drank coffee from the time he was a baby, is now a teetotaler. Who would have believed it! I had one episode with Atrial Fibrillation but it was diagnosed immediately and the medication, Flecainide, controls the problem. I stopped drinking or eating anything with caffeine and stopped coffee and chocolate altogether. The irregular pulse is gone. Praise the Lord!

**Loved ones, friends, supporters** – We are so grateful to God for you! You make a huge difference in our lives. God has surrounded us with those who really care, keep in touch, partner in our ministry, provide places to stay when we pass through, stop in to visit us and encourage us with stories of God's faithfulness. We celebrate the churches and people who enable us to continue in ministry to churches, widows, orphans and church leaders in Africa. We celebrate our African friends who teach us so much about leaning hard on God to provide all that is needed in life! We are blessed people. Don't forget to look at the pictures below.

We praise Him with grateful hearts,

David and Sylvia De Jong



Rhonda



Bruce



Shawn



Ray



Lela



Rainy and the Rattlesnakes Bluegrass Band



Rainy



Rex and Kim



Daicey



Madison



Baxter and Samantha,  
his girlfriend



Paul, Sandy, Raylyn, Heather, Hannah, Vita, Andrew, Daniel, Stephen



Tim, Lorie, Caleb, Heather, Patrick, Nathan, Evie, Joyce, Wesley



Sheila, Myles, Brian



Rehema, Sheila, Zander, James, Stefani, Owen, Kyleen, Njema, and Ngina.



Brian and Erin



Mitchel and Heidi



Kami and Philip



Mike, Joshua, Veronica, Ruthi, Mark, Evie, Jesse, Amber, Evelyn, Jaxson  
Evie is Ruthi's mother.