



LINGERING MEMORIES OF 2008

All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. Psalm 139:16

JANUARY David - Mission trip to Ghana the first two weeks of January and then prostate surgery. Sylvia - worked with Daniel & Jarave Telfort, Haitian friends visiting in our home, to develop guidelines for translators to use when translating her book *Widows of the Old Testament*.

FEBRUARY Spent lots of time in the office. Due to the unrest in Kenya, we cancelled our trip. On 2/28 we made a trip to GA for family time and dental work.

MARCH Source of Light Mission (SLM) board meetings in GA. Sylvia had cornea transplant in Cleveland on left eye, which healed well. The Spanish translation of Sylvia's book was completed and published on www.Obrerofiel.com web site.

APRIL David did repair work at church. We picked up Joseph Kavuli at the airport in Asheville, NC & did PR work with him for five days. PTL, he was able to get some prayer & financial support for his ministry with CEF. We dropped him off near Asheville for a CEF national conference. Then we participated in a mission conference in Hickory, NC.

MAY We participated in National Day of Prayer. We celebrated David's 80th birthday with close friends for a dinner party. Joseph stayed in our home for several days to make plans for our trip to Kenya in 2009 and we introduced him to some churches in our area.

JUNE A SLM missionary, Mary Hines, stayed in our home several days. We flew to Kansas City for granddaughter's wedding (Brian & Sheila Weller), and to help James & Kyleen with the house they bought. Sylvia had a cornea transplant in Cleveland (right eye), which healed well.

JULY We went to Iowa; gave a mission update at two supporting churches and visited a grandson in Dubuque. We helped James again with more remodel work on his house. Our Kiswahili translation team included a 3rd partner, the CEF Director of Tanzania.

AUGUST David learned how to make a DVD & worked on the Ghana DVD. We went to Georgia for Sylvia's dental work. Worked on DVD and visited with family; also went to Florida for Yohner's retirement celebration, after 50 years of missionary work. Their daughter is Mark's wife, Ruth. We spent time with Mark and Ruth's family and visited friends at Media, AIM's retirement center.

SEPTEMBER While in Florida, we attended an 80th birthday party of a dear missionary friend Don Genheimer, with whom we worked in South Africa. We participated in the (SLM) board meeting (Madison, GA) and David was the main speaker at their banquet. We met with a couple in Hickory, NC, to help them plan and prepare for going into fulltime missionary work. David's son, Tim and Lori, came to Ohio and helped us put on a new porch and roof.

OCTOBER Work continued on our house. We completed a rough draft of the Ghana DVD & used it in a mission conference in western New York. The Spanish translation of *Widows of the Old Testament* book was published by ELA, branch of CAM Int. Mission. Sylvia held a Prayer Partners Gathering at Wooster Hospital for everyone involved in the Volunteer P.P. Program.

NOVEMBER Joseph K. arrived from Kenya for a visit. We made further plans for our upcoming trip to Kenya. Granddaughter, Sheila, and her husband stayed in our home, so Sheila could rest and recover from Mono. Her husband, Brian, helped David with work on the house and workshop. Praise God for Evangeline (Evie) Beth De Jong, new born of Nathan and Joyce De Jong (son of Tim and Lori). We thank God, granddaughter Heidi's custody battle is over and she and the birth father have shared custody of Mitchel. Chinyanja/Chichewa translation for Zambia/Malawi nears completion.

DECEMBER We praise God for the safe birth of Andrew Hunter De Jong to Daniel and Heather Jo (Paul and Sandy's son).



Andrew (2 wks.) with siblings Stephen (almost 3), Hannah Jo (6) and Raylyn (7)

Since our health insurance premiums are so high & our income has dropped a lot, we researched insurance providers (very time consuming) and decided to make a change. We are also researching materials for our upcoming trip to Africa (March and April, Lord willing).

We were home for Christmas this year, and enjoyed being with Bruce, Rhonda (Sylvia's daughter) and Shawn. We got together with cousins in the evening. We praise God that Rhonda's work on her Master's (while teaching full time) and her son Shawn's first year in college are going well. Please pray for Ray (Sylvia's son) & Jen Miatke and Desiree (15), Lela (7) and Rainy (5). They are going through a difficult time. Praise God, Rex and Kim Miatke (Sylvia's son) and family were able to keep their home and plan to refinance in January. Their son Baxter (15) was chosen for a special band (plays French horn) that will tour several countries in Europe in the summer (2009). Daicey (10) plays drums and Madison (9) plays trumpet (like Baxter, Rex, Sylvia and her mother Hazel, before her).

Sylvia has recently experienced a slight rejection of both cornea transplants. Immediate and continued treatment seems to have reversed the rejection process. Please pray with us that the transplants will not be rejected and need replacement. We thank God for basic good health, a precious family, many opportunities for ministry, new & old friends, wonderful prayer & financial supporters, a deepening relationship with our Lord, and for the opportunity to trust our Lord for His provisions more than ever. He is faithful!

David and Sylvia De Jong