



August, 2016

Dear Friend:

How much good news can you pack into six months? A lot apparently. Here is what has been happening among the Greens since our Epiphany newsletter.

**Daniel** and **Ginny** are going to have a baby! The due date is April 4, and everyone is excited. They are both about to start another year of teaching Sunday School (1st grade for Ginny, 3rd for Daniel). Ginny is also looking forward to starting Bible Study Fellowship and Mothers Of Preschoolers. Daniel has started a new season in the soccer league at work. The big news at work is a complete reorganization which is leaving everyone in suspense.



Daniel and Ginny in Jamaica with Ginny's parents

**Christopher** spent five weeks in the spring living with a former Soviet colonel in a small city in Russia as part of a full language immersion program. He returned to the United States with a keener appreciation for the modern Russian political mentality, the finer points of giving toasts, and the caliber of former Soviet military officers. Bolstered by his Russian experience, he passed his Russian exam in the summer, and is now in his final weeks of financial management training. In October he will depart for Baku, Azerbaijan, where he will manage the Human Resources and Budget sections of the U.S. embassy there for two years.



Amelia, Megan, Eli, Peter

After six hard years, **Peter** successfully defended his dissertation on Vineyard Imagery in the Old Testament and received his Ph.D. in May. He continues to work on the North Slope oil field and was just promoted. **Megan** is also pregnant, due in December! Amelia will be starting dance classes soon, and Eli will be continuing his homeschool in a week. With the Ph.D. behind them, Peter and Megan are beginning to pursue full-time ministry positions. RUF remains an appealing option.

C. DAVID GREEN – AREA COORDINATOR

631 FOURTH AVENUE, BETHLEHEM, PA 18018 – 610.691.0988 – DGREEN@RUF.ORG

**Stephen** reports from Korea where he is stationed with the army: “Right now we are in the middle of our Korean-American annual joint exercise (Ulchi Freedom Guardian) which involves 50,000 Republic of Korea and 25,000 U.S. soldiers conducting training exercises for two weeks. Middle-of-the-night emergency drills and an elevated state of alert (North and South Korea exchanged artillery fire during this exercise in 2015) means that everyone is extremely busy and a little bit more stressed out than usual. I am now the training Non Commissioned Officer In Charge for my entire company (previously it was just one platoon) as well as Reception & Integration (in-processing new soldiers who arrive at our unit) so I am particularly busy. However, the work is fulfilling.”

Stephen got two weeks leave in August and we were delighted to have him around. He was a vital part of a home project. We decided to insulate the third floor, which meant removing the plaster ceiling. It was a mammoth job in nearly 100° temperature and 100% humidity, featuring fine plaster and slate dust. I couldn't have done it without his help.



Stephen covered in plaster and slate dust



Ben with three counselors in his clan at French Creek Bible Conference

**Benjamin** says, “I’m done with Rita's Water Ice and am excited to head back to college. I counseled at French Creek Bible Conference grades 9 and 10 for the second year in a row, which was a blast. I went to RUF Summer Conference in Florida in May with the Millersville group, which was a wonderful experience.”



RUF grants a sabbatical after seven years as an Area Coordinator, and I took mine in March and April. **Ruth and I** took a real vacation for two weeks, then Ruth went back to teaching while I did house chores that get neglected when one travels all the time, and read a short stack of books. The sabbatical ended in time to go to the RUF Summer Conference in Florida. From there one weekend we went to Wheaton College for Peter's graduation, and in August Ruth went to Alaska to help with Eli and Amelia during Megan's pregnancy. Several family gatherings with Christopher and Stephen in town rounded out the summer.

*David Neen*