



July, 2013

Dear Friend:

Warm greetings from hot Bethlehem! And we're not talking about our ranking as a tourist destination. I hope you are having a good summer, and are finding some relief from the heat.

You may have noticed that my quarterly ministry newsletters have taken on a new look lately. With my ministry in Reformed University Fellowship expanding in the Northeast and Midwest, it seemed best to convert my newsletter into two regional newsletters. Changes include regular contributions from the RUF staff, and dropping the "Homefront" column. This semi-annual letter will replace that column. So here's the news from the Green household.

**Daniel and Ginny** live near Annapolis, MD. Daniel is doing computer programming for the government, and Ginny works for a Maryland state legislator. They began a garden this spring, but discovered that their soil is not very fertile.

**Peter, Megan, and Elijah** are in Wheaton waiting for Elijah's baby sister, due in August. Peter is halfway through his Ph.D. dissertation and hopes to finish by Christmas. The topic is vineyard imagery in the Old Testament. In her free time (Ha!) Megan is finishing one of her seminary courses. They went through RUF's assessment in March in Greenville, SC. Ruth and I assisted in this assessment and got to spend an extra day with them. They are hoping for a campus placement for fall 2014 after Peter graduates.

**Christopher** arrived in Taiwan on July 11, and immediately a typhoon hit the island. He reports: "Taiwan observations #2: in which the magic of modern technology transforms Chris from a shrimpy, insubstantial fellow to a gangly giant by means of a 14 hour plane ride. He now dwarfs the denizens of this Lilliputian land, many of whom would qualify for height-related handicapped stickers back in the Old Country." Christopher is with the State Department, and finished two years in the Congo in March. We had fun seeing him a few times in Washington, DC, for a couple of months before he left for Taiwan.



Elijah riding a sculpture of a bear.

**Stephen** joined the army! June 6 he graduated from boot camp and headed out to Monterrey, CA. He's enrolled in the Defense Language Institute studying Korean. This is one of the longest programs, and he will be there for over a year. He amused me last night by giving the Korean pronunciation of the U.S. states.



With Stephen on Graduation Day

**Ruth** again taught AP English online, and two English classes in the homeschool co-op. Now that school is over she has enjoyed traveling with me to RUF Summer Conference, General Assembly, RUF Assessment, and RUF Staff Training.

**Yellowstone National Park!** The State Department encourages their employees to see the U.S. while they're between overseas posts, so Christopher thought he would like to see Yellowstone. He consulted with the brothers, checked my calendar, and found that everyone except Stephen would be available the last week of June. Ginny planned a detailed itinerary and published a comprehensive supplies list. Daniel and Ginny drove her father's RV out to Wheaton. The rest of us flew in from various places.

Ruth stayed with Megan and spent the week exploring Wheaton's boy attractions with Elijah. The rest of us piled into the RV and drove across Illinois, Wisconsin, South Dakota, and into Wyoming. We loved the scenery and the drive was made easier by



Peter, Benjamin, Christopher, Daniel, Ginny  
at the Yellowstone Grand Canyon.

**Benjamin** finished 10th grade (whew!). School officially ended in early June, but then the real work and excitement began. He joined a robotics team which built an underwater robot. They spent practically all day every day in June working on it. They won first place in the regional competition and went to the international competition in Seattle, where they gave a respectable showing.



Benjamin's robotics team. Ben is dead center kneeling.



Ruth reading Elijah's favorite book.

card games and book discussions. Daniel, Ginny, and I slept in the RV, while Peter, Christopher, and Benjamin pitched a tent.

Yellowstone was, of course, beautiful. We also loved the Black Hills and the Badlands. We've never had a family vacation like that, and we'll remember this one for a long time.

Yours,

*David Green*

David Green