



FALL 2011 NEWSLETTER

The Heartbeat of the Hamiltons: Family Report

Steve continues to work on editing the many songs and devotionals we have already shot. Please continue to pray for his frozen shoulder and God's healing touch.

Vonda is returning to school this fall! The Glaser Foundation has granted her a \$250 scholarship for each semester, so she is working on her Masters, which will be in Christian counseling. This semester she is taking two weekend classes from Dallas Theological Seminary. A possible scholarship has been offered for her to attend Criswell College for future semesters or she just may take one class a semester at Hope International University. This educational pursuit is to help further the mission work and open doors which would not be available without her master's degree. She will still be working full-time on the mission work and only attending school one day a week. Pray for continued healing in her foot, which was broken during the trip to Alaska this summer.

Andres attended a wonderful Christian conference in Houston this fall. He was blessed and is growing – please continue to pray for him to follow the Lord in God's wisdom! He is considering going to a Deaf Bible College.

Selah had an amazing trip this summer with SALTeens (Singing and Living Truth for Teens). During the Texas State 4H Round-Up, she won 3rd place for signing her song, Give Me Your Eyes. She met a wonderful new friend on our trip to Alaska, Andrew*, and he spent a week down here with us in October. She also had the opportunity to attend a CODA (Children of Deaf Adults) week this summer, with a friend, Marcie*. This is her junior year and she is being homeschooled. The Kendalls have graciously given us Switched on Schoolhouse, a curriculum which enables her to study independently and yet be active in mission work and community service. She serves as president for her 4H club and second vice-president on the 4H county council for this school year. Her most exciting recent news is that she just won the Fannin County Pageant this past weekend and was crowned Queen of Fannin County! She signed the song, I Can Only Imagine, and was a wonderful witness for the Lord. Please pray for the Lord to lead, bless, and use her for His glory!



Cloudi is doing well as a freshman in high school. She is such a hard-worker in her studies! Pre-Algebra was too fast and too stressful for her this fall, so the teacher is working with her at a slower pace and more one-on-one in the same material and she is doing much better. She is wanting to do a lot extra right now and having to slow down to faithfully keep up with her studies. At school, she is very excited about her Home Economics class and learning to do more sewing and in 4H, she is doing the food project. She was also able to attend a marvelous camp for the deaf at Loving Hands Ranch with two friends, Zechariah* and Audrey*. First Christian Church of Denison sponsored all three of them, and some lovely friends, the Keenes, drove all three of them up to camp. Her Sweet 16 is fast approaching and since she loves royalty so much, we are taking some of her friends to Medieval Times in Dallas for her birthday.

As a family, we have begun attending Life Covenant Church here in Bonham, TX on Wednesday nights. This allows us to welcome local people to church and we have been very blessed by Brother Dave Bradley and his wife, Dawnda. On the Sundays that we are in town, we attend Hillcrest Christian Church in McKinney, TX. Thank you for your prayers for our family to grow in Christ and to be faithful servants unto the Lord.



DVD Projects



“Fresh Bread”

We are thankful to God that the “Fresh Bread” DVD is complete. These 13 tasty Bible lessons remind us just how good God is and that Jesus and His Word do not become old, hard, and stale. Thank you to Ainemaire Kendall and Selah for sharing their photography skills to help us complete the artwork on the cover. This DVD has already been successfully used in IL, NV, and OK, and is on its way to Jamaica!

We have four new music DVDs that we pray to complete and release. There is still some editing work that needs to be done. We also need to get permission for song licenses on the first two DVDs; the other two DVDs feature Sara Groves and Two Feet Forward and both have already granted us permission to use their songs! One of the upcoming DVDs is entitled “Sharing the Treasure of Our Inheritance.” The DVD is based upon Ephesians 1:17-19. It will feature these songs: Eagle’s Wings, Good Man Down, My Redeemer Lives, Heirloom, I Will Praise The Lord, Lay Down My Pride, Man After God’s Own Heart, Held, I Am Not Alone, Glory, Testify To Love, You’re Worthy of My Praise, and Batter Fried Chicken. The other DVD will focus on reaching out to teenagers, and will be based upon this TEENAGER acrostic.

Total Eyes On Emmanuel Now! Acept God’s Eternal Redeeming Salvation!

I (Vonda) participate in this DVD, but it is mainly the sign language artistry of our teenage daughters, Selah and Cloudi (with Brandilyn helping with one song). The DVD will feature the songs: Friends, We Live, We Love, Shut De Door, I’m Not Cool, Make it matter, Jesus Loves Me, God Bless the USA, Oh No You Never Let Go, Give me your Eyes, Camouflage, Give them All, When I call on Jesus, and When the Sun Goes Down. Please pray for the permission for music licenses for these songs. If you would like to help EOE in obtaining music licenses, please contact us.

The third DVD will be titled “Pure and Simple” and will feature 14 songs by Sara Groves: Jesus You’re Beautiful, Remember Surrender, Past the Wishing, Come Thou Fount, He’s Always Been Faithful, The Word, Know My Heart, This Journey Is My Own, Generations, You Are Wonderful, Angels Watching Over Me, All Day, All Night, Prayers for This Child, and Beautiful Child. Many of these songs and the songs on the fourth album, Hiking the Final Frontier: Alaska, were filmed in Alaska during our trip up there this summer. The fourth album has songs by Two Feet Forward and includes, Look Around You, Put on Love, Only God, Child of the Light, Do Not Be Anxious, You’re Transforming Me, On My Way, Wrecker Service, Driven by Love, Jesus I Love You.

Please pray for the completion of all four of these video projects so that these lessons and songs can lead many to know Jesus better!

The completed DVD's are touching lives in many places. We donated our DVDs to the public library in Homer, AK this summer and also to both camps the girls attended this summer at Loving Hands Ranch. Continue to pray for continued EOE support for DVD distribution in the future.

We have a lot more Bible lessons and songs that we have plans to videotape. We need to videotape two Christian songs and have them ready for special outreach in Phoenix on February 11th. Pray for the Lord to bless these projects, too.

We thank God for using us and your partnership with us in sharing the gospel.

501c3 Status!

In August, Ed* began working on our 501c3 paperwork. Compass Christian paid for the paperwork and Ed* has volunteered his legal services to help Expressions of Emmanuel attain 501c3 status! We are very excited about becoming our own 501c3 entity and thank God for the generous people who have donated time and finances toward this end. Once Expressions of Emmanuel has the necessary paperwork in hand, we will then be eligible to apply for several more grants. Praise God! We have been working on writing the grant applications, so that once we receive the 501c3 paperwork, we can send off for the grants immediately. These grants will help fund the reproduction and distribution of current DVD projects. However, if we do receive one or more of these grants, it will not replace our need for mission support. Thank you to each of you who faithfully support us.

Kendall Life Languages Training

We are thankful for the generosity of the Kendall's in allowing us to participate in the trainer's certification workshop for Kendall Life Languages. Both Steve and Vonda were certified as a trainer in this wonderful tool to help us understand ourselves and each other in the body of Christ. This training is based on Romans 12 and the spiritual gifts that are found there. It helps individuals with character development, as one can see their strengths and weaknesses and then work towards strengthening their weaknesses. It also helps us to understand each other in the body of Christ and work together more productively and harmoniously. We want to share these truths with the deaf. If you would like to learn more about Kendall Life Languages, check out their website at www.lifelanguages.com.

Opal Vurlenda Hill



My sister went to be with the Lord on October 18th. Thank you each for all your prayers for her. I had the privilege of being with her as she went home to be with the Lord. I have peace having seen her peace as she went home. Please pray for our family as we grieve.

She was a wonderful wife, mother, nurse practitioner, sister, daughter, and friend. She blessed countless people around the country and did many mission outreaches in Mexico, as well. She was 11 years older than me, so she was not only an older sister, but she was also a mother figure to me. She helped and guided me in so many ways. She was always concerned for my best interest and the best interest of others. She surely radiated Christ's love! In my darkest hours she was there for me. How blessed I am to have such a sister! Please pray for us as we miss her! Rejoice with us that we have the promise of eternity because of Jesus Christ our Lord!

Tiffany* Comes to Work Part-time!

While we don't have all of Steve's support yet, we are in a bind, because we cannot get the mission work done or work to get Steve's support without help. God has sent us a godly, capable young lady, Tiffany*, to help us part-time with the office work. She is resourceful and organized and this comes in handy as she works on many different projects. She has helped in writing support letters for Steve. She has also been writing grants for the reproduction and distribution of DVDs. Please keep these grants in your prayers - that the response would be favorable and we would be able to get out many more DVDs. We have so much footage of songs and devotionals we just need the finances to get them reproduced on DVDs and distributed. She has also been working on obtaining licenses for the songs for our next two DVDs, *Sharing the Treasure of Our Inheritance* and *TEENAGERS*, so that we can get those reproduced. And there is always general office work, editing newsletters and other writing, updating the address database, mailings, etc.

The TREK girls from Life Covenant Church came one Saturday morning to help organize our many DVDs, picture books, and books. Tiffany worked with them and has been working on organizing the office and our extensive repertoire of props, as well. We are so thankful for their help.

My Friend, Marie (Aks) Soraino

Please pray for the family of one of my best friends, Marie (Aks) Soraino. My precious friend was a ray of Jesus' sunshine in my life and she passed away on August 8th. Ever since we met in Bible college, she helped support me in my mission work! What a faithful friend! While I praise God for this godly friend, she is and, will continue to be, greatly missed.

Alaska: The Last Frontier

Eskimo ice cream & Forget-Me-Nots, Alaska's state flower, remind us of our treasured time with our brothers & sisters in Christ in Alaska. We were blessed to fellowship with nine different churches in Alaska. We enjoyed amazing times of spiritual growth & renewal for all during the two weeks of the Greatland church camp. We traveled 2600 miles - with Steve driving all of those miles! We traveled the majority of the Alaskan highway. We were able to videotape 35 Christian songs in Sign Language. We were able to also videotape many Bible devotionals. God blessed our time there immensely. We traveled in two RV's, one truck, & one car. All of our transportation was made possible by our Alaskan Christian Family. We were housed, fed & toured by many! God FAITHFULLY cared for us & the mission work through them and the warm welcome they extended to us in one of the coldest states!

We have such a heart connection with folks in Alaska- words really cannot describe it. God was & is in our midst. Our time there was rich!



To Our Partners in Christ

Thanks to everyone for their acts of service to help this mission work be successful. Thanks to John* for taking care of the mission financial records. are so excited as the Northside Christian Church returned to work on the mission house. Thanks to them and everyone who partners with us! You are in our prayers! Please email or write us about any of your specific prayer needs. We truly care for you!

Please pray for God to rise up more workers to labor with us to reach the Deaf and their families for Christ!

Merry Christmas!

From our hearts to yours, we wish each of you, “Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!”

EOE Prayer Requests

Thanks for all of our EOE prayer warriors! Please pray for:

- Financial support for Steve’s salary
- Steve’s health
- Albert* – healing from cancer
- Our family to grow in Christ and to be faithful servants unto the Lord

- Locate new medical insurance

- Permission for music licenses for new DVD(s) songs and volunteer to help obtain licenses
- EOE funding to make and distribute DVD’s

EOE on the WEB

For more information on EOE or to order DVDs visit online:

- <http://eoe.tripod.com/>
- <http://www.youtube.com/user/ExpressionsEmmanuel>

Expressions of Emmanuel Calendar 2011

August 11	Met with lawyers; Sent off 501c3 paperwork
September 2	Visited Amanda and Zechariah in their new home in Sulpher, OK (Please pray for this mom and her deaf son)
September 3	Speaking at Cache Christian Church
September 9-10	Dallas Theological Seminary class – Dynamics of Christian Marriage
September 11	Shared at Dallas Deaf Church
September 12	Nursing home outreach
September 28	Selah shares song at Life Covenant
October 1	Fannin County parade “Jesus Is My SuperHero” float
October 2	Sharing at Denison Deaf Church
October 8	Sharing Christian song and witness at Fannin County Fair Queen Pageant
October 9	SHHH!!! Steve’s 50 th Birthday Celebration!
October 11-14	Kendall Life Languages training (ministry training)
October 15	TREK girls from Life Covenant Church come to organize
October 17	Nursing home outreach
October 22	Vurlenda’s memorial service
October 24	Sign language class
October 28-29	Beaver, OK Mission Fair
October 30	Church Missions Presentation in Lone Wolf, OK
October 31	Youth outreach
November 3	Selah’s wisdom teeth surgery
November 7	Sign language class
November 9	Cloudi’s birthday – “Sweet 16”
November 11-12	Dallas Theological Seminary course – Conflict Resolution
November 12	“Sweet 16” birthday celebration for Cloudi
November 13	Sharing at Lover’s Lane Dallas Deaf Church
November 16-20	National Missionary Convention in Atlanta, GA/ visit Deaf Bible College
November 28	Nursing home outreach
December 12	Sign language class
December 13	Nursing home outreach
December 16-18	Hot Springs, AR Deaf Church outreach
December 18	Denison Deaf Church outreach
February 11	Outreach Concert, Phoenix, AZ

IMPORTANT TOPICS

For all who receive our newsletters

You enjoy receiving our news letter, but would prefer to have it only emailed to you, please let us know. This is a way that we can cut some of our costs. If so, please email us at:

vondabland@msn.com or hamilton.steven@gmail.com

If you enjoy our newsletter mailed to you just as it is, we will continue to do so. If you move to a different address and want to receive the newsletter, try to let us know beforehand, because of bulk mailings the post office will not forward our letter and we often lose contact.

Becoming a new supporter

Expressions of Emmanuel trust that all of you who receive our letter are supporting us already in your prayers. Thank you. If you would pray and consider becoming a financial supporter please fill in the form and mail it to us. If you already support us, thanks again. God bless you, Steven, Vonda, Selah and Cloudi.

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Yes, I/we _____ would like to become a regular supporter of *Expressions of Emmanuel, Missionaries with the Deaf.*

With a donation of: monthly() yearly() one time donation() other _____

In the amount of \$10.00 () \$15.00 () \$20.00 () other \$ __, __, __.

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