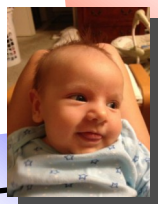


Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

John 14:1-3 (NKJV)



New Grandchild

# Winter JAARS Report

## Autumn — 2013

### Witnessing God's Wonderful Deeds

#### A Very Full Summer

In our last letter we shared about our planned trip to the Philippines. We had an amazing six weeks away from home. The results were more than we anticipated. We landed in Manila on Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, and had one day to adjust to the time difference, then began several meetings with colleagues and friends who share our love for the Koronadal Blaen.



On the 10<sup>th</sup> we flew down to General Santos City for 12 days with our Blaen friends. And what a time we had! We enjoyed the wonderful hospitality of Pastor Cuma and Lydia Saya and their family.



We enjoyed time with their three children, their spouses, and 5 grandsons. What a wonderful family!

At one point Sally looked around the corner just in time to see two little boys standing around a kneeling Leon, their arms wrapped around his neck.

Sally's former co-worker Kathy was with us and at one point those same little boys



were using her smart phone to look at pictures she had on it. Amazingly, the four-year-old already knew how to use it!

Our goal there was to meet with and encourage the team of ten men and one woman who have committed themselves to translating the Old Testament and revising the New Testament for the Koronadal Blaen.



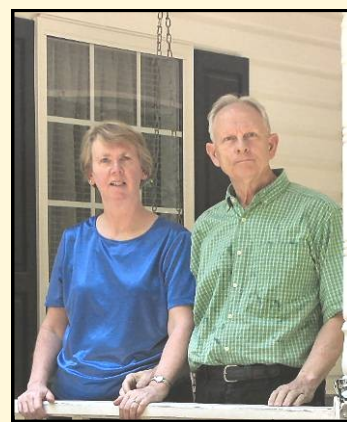
When the New Testament was being translated we expats made the decisions on words to use, books to translate, and we paid our translation assistants. Now we are turning this over to the Blaens, making it truly their project. In many ways it is hard to do this, but we believe the day has come for them to take ownership. The really big hurdle for them is finances. How will they pay for rent on a translation office? How will they receive any remuneration for their work? How will they pay for their computers and internet connection? They and we are waiting to see how the Lord is going to meet this huge need. That He will, we have no doubt.

In Joshua chapter 5 the children of Israel left Egypt uncircumcised and dependent on the Lord to protect and provide for them. As they crossed the Jordan River to claim the land God had promised them, they stopped and Joshua circumcised the men as a mark of the Lord on them. For a few days they were in a vulnerable position, as they healed and waited for the Lord's direction in conquering the land. They celebrated the Passover there, and the next day they began to eat of the produce of the land of Canaan. That marked the end of the manna that God had provided for them for the many years of their journey in the



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(Continued on page 2)



#### PRAISE 'N PRAYER

- Praise God for the Blaen pastors translating the Old Testament. Pray for them as they work out the details. Pray God will call the Blaen church to be engaged and willing to play a major role with them.
- Praise God for the safe arrival of Sheri & Chris's fourth son, Beren. (See pictures on the reverse.)
- Praise that Kathy quickly came up to speed in a language she had not spoken in 17 years. The Blaens were thrilled to see her again. There were many hugs and tears.
- Please continue to pray for Kathy to recover from a bug she picked up in our last days in Manila. Recovery is going very slow and she tires easily.
- We thank the Lord for a refreshing 3 days at the beach. Dipping our feet in the Atlantic was a special gift, as was time with friends we had not seen for a very long time.
- We thank God for safety through the many flights and connections of our travels this summer. Our luggage came with us all the way. But now we are grateful to be back in our comfortable home.

Ministry letter from Leon & Sally Winter with Wycliffe Bible Translators, Inc.  
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wilderness. Now they would have to find their food and fight their battles as they claimed their Promised Land, with their faith in the Lord to guide them.

What does that have to do with the Blaans? The days of direct provision or direction or pay from outsiders—the missionaries—have ended. They're in vulnerable days now as they learn to look to the Lord for His guidance and provision. Now is the time for the Blaans, and us, to wait upon Lord to see how He will direct and provide.

Psalm 50:10 says "for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills." Surely the God of the universe, who owns the cattle on a thousand hills, has some set aside for the team of Blaans pastors who will become translators.

Will you pray with us for the Lord's direction and provision for



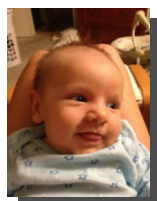
these dedicated men and woman who want so much to see their people have the complete Bible?

We are grateful for Grace Gestó, a Filipina, native to General Santos City, who wants to be an encourager to the Blaans team. She is a positive, godly woman who sees the picture and knows their fears and concerns.



All too soon, it was time to leave the Philippines. We were in California for two weeks before our Philippines trip and then another week afterwards. In those two time slots, we spoke in four churches and spent time with our kids and their families.

We welcomed home Barb, Paul and their kids from South Africa, and said a somewhat teary good-bye to Kristy, Dennis and kids as they headed to their new home in Sitka,



Alaska. While we were in the Philippines, grandchild #11, Beren Nathan Leon Leigh, arrived.

Following our time in the Philippines, we



*Barb & Paul with Dominic, Michaela & Isabelle*



*Hal & Angela with Chloe & Camden*



*Sheri & Chris with Aiden, Kellan, Rowen & Beren*



*Kristy & Dennis with Gabe & Olivia*

enjoyed six days with Sheri, Chris and their four boys.

We treasure our family and give thanks to the Lord for each one. Our prayer is we'll all gather together in Heaven some day.

We returned to our home in North Carolina on August 1<sup>st</sup> very weary after ten flights and six weeks of living out of suitcases and sleeping in nine different beds. North Carolina had one of the rainiest summers on

record, so we came home to find mold in much of our house. We are still discovering books, shoes, furniture, even our rice cooker with a thin layer of mold.

#### *Back to our normal roles*

Sally has begun her 6<sup>th</sup> year of teaching at Metrolina Christian Academy. She is grateful for a position at a school where Christ is lifted up and the salvation message is central. She will be speaking in chapel twice this fall and covets your prayer. Besides teaching she leads the Young Scientists Club and the Lower School Student Council.

Leon is happy to be back working with the great bunch who work to provide power and communications for field teams and mother tongue translators. The main goal for all is to help get God's word into every language that does not have it. Technology is a gift from the Lord in this time to move the work along with greater speed.

#### *Gift of a special weekend*



A dear couple and friends for many years invited us to join them for the Labor Day weekend at the beach. They and some other couples we know, traveled to North Carolina. We joined them at a lovely 7 bedroom house right on the beach.

It was a good time for us, since we were shortly back from a "crazy" summer of travel. The drive to the coast and the time with friends was just the tonic we needed to reinvigorate our tired minds and bodies.



**Jesus loves us and we are thankful too for your love and support,**

*Leon & Sally*

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#### **Send support for our ministry to:**

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**"Preference: Leon & Sally Winter,**  
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