

# KENNEDY CLAN

Nov - Dec 2009

## DEAR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Another momentous year comes to an end, all that is left is to celebrate Christmas, the birth of Christ, and see our way into the New Year. What about fighting our way to the malls and through the masses trying to get all the Christmas shopping done in time? Yippee, we do not have to do that, yes we do have the masses, but the malls seem to be hidden, we have yet to come across them.

The last couple of months we have tried as a family to get back into a routine. Daniel has been catching up on his school work that he missed out on, Timothy figures he has to do school as well so has his pile of books he hauls out from time to time so he can do school work.

We'll talk of time moving on, these first two paragraphs were written a few weeks ago and before we know it, it is the New Year and we move into 2010. As a family we had a great 2009, it was filled with much, most things we did not anticipate but God blessed us. We very much look forward to 2010, certain of plenty of the unknown, but we would not want it any other way.

The boys have done really well; Daniel enjoys school, well most of the time, and seems to get along with his teacher, again most of the time. We do have some rather interesting parent teacher meetings! Timothy feels that whatever his brother does he can too and feels cheated when he is not able to. The boys love being out and about chasing all sorts of creepy crawlies and looking for the weird and the wonderful.

Fiona has been doing a great job taking care of the boys, the home and various medical queries. With the boys being rather head strong, no idea where they get that from, this has been a trying and patience inspired experience. Garth goes off to work early in the morning on the motorbike so he ends up waking up the household on his way out, the boys do not like it if he leaves without saying goodbye, they need their bike ride fix in the mornings to the front gate.



Timothy and a friend, Haylie

## **BENIN OPERATIONS**

We are thankful for ongoing broadcasts and this is one site of the Transmitter Station that seems to work the best. We have had very little 'Lost Air' due to the transmitter not broadcasting and we praise God for that.

Paul Cox, Station Director, has been to South Africa again for meetings at the TWR regional office; please keep praying for these meetings as our new Africa Director is formulating a plan to take us, TWR Africa, forward with renewed vision and focus.

It has been harvest time at the Transmitter Site and this year being our first for planting crops has not been too bad. Most of the planting we did was exploratory, and we are thankful for a harvest of maize, sorghum, ground nuts and some rice. Our peanuts did not work out too well, well they did but the forest critters enjoyed them, as for the bananas, well we planted them too close to the waters edge and they spent the best part of the rainy season under water.

Well this may not be a report on the work of TWR but a pertinent question none-the-less, Timothy asked Garth one evening early in the New Year if he was going to go to work this year! Out of the mouths of babes and all that, would be nice if we even had a choice, we may debate this question but since TWR bosses may be reading this Prayer Letter the answer is an unequivocal, Yes! In the meantime we are waiting for permission to build the new houses and offices and for the SW licenses to be approved. Please pray for the obstacles to be removed.

As I write this, it is already the 10<sup>th</sup> January, yes I know I am way late with this, but something more significant, today is national voodoo day in Benin. This year it is being held here in Parakou, there are regularly signs of voodoo around, especially sacrifices placed out in the middle of the road close to us, but this is again a reminder to ask you to pray, pray for the country of Benin, the work of TWR here and in the region, for other missionary families serving here and also for us, the Kennedy's, nothing is more important to us knowing people are praying for us.....

#### Our Praise and Prayer Items:

- Praise for a great Christmas and New Year celebration, a good time with the family and friends here in Parakou
- Praise for the great year 2009
- Praise for Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Christ
- Praise for the ongoing TWR broadcast and the lives being touched in this region
- Praise for a great conference in Togo and safe travel there and back
- Pray for the new year ahead of us
- Pray for Daniel and his education and Timothy as he develops and wants to do all his older brother does
- Pray for safety on the road, daily as we go out and about, back and forth to the Station
- Pray for us as a family as there are a number of changes on the horizon for us.

Well there are a number of changes on the horizon for us as we go into this New Year. Please be in prayer for these, we will be able to give you more info in our next Prayer Letter. These things are not always easy but we have seen God guide us thus far so we have no doubt he will take us through 2010.

Thank you for your faithful support in many different ways, it has been very encouraging to us, we look forward to 2010 and to what God has in store for us.

God's Blessings

Garth and Fiona

Daniel and Timothy

*FKennedy*

*GEMERALD*

*Daniel*



The last few weeks have been holiday for me and I have done all sorts of things, had a few sleep overs, fishing, swimming and also got a new pet. My rabbit, Brownny, was trying to bite me every time I picked her up so mommy swapped her for another rabbit and also got one for Timothy; now mine is called Sandy and Timothy's is called Brownny. The best was the great Christmas we had, although I didn't quite get what I wanted- my two front teeth!!! I lost them after New Year, in fact, and now have a reason to say 'free' instead of 'three' but am so proud of them that I show anybody who happens to stop at our gate. I also went to market to buy a calabash and a really bright pair of flip flops with the money the 'tooth fairy' left me.

...i was in the christmas play, auntie donna said I could stand there and sing and also be shepherd, i think i did a good job, now all the time i sing the song we wish you a merry christmas all the time, even the other day when it was someone's birthday i did sing we wish you a merry christmas, i did have a good christmas and have a bag full of sweets but my mommy took it away and now i have to ask her every time before i get one, not very much of the Christmas spirit there!

### Timothy's Tales

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'Some trust in chariots and some in horses,  
but we trust in the name of the LORD our God'

PSALM 20:7