

COMMISSIONED...HIS COMMAND - OUR MISSION. Mark 16:75

Missionary/Evangelists Tim, Trena, Rodney, Neal & Darren Johnson

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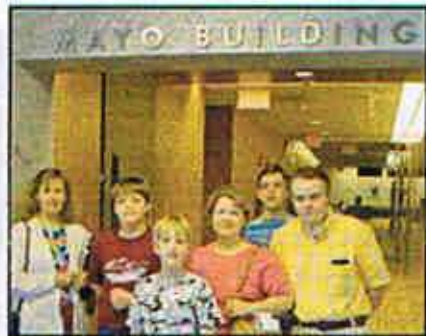
Merry Christmas! ¡Feliz Navidad!

A pastor had a beloved kitten that climbed high up in a small tree. As the kitten mewed pitifully, the pastor employed every effort to rescue it. After all else failed he decided to lasso the tree and tie the rope to his truck so the sapling could be bent enough to bring the kitten into reach. He put the truck in gear and just as the kitten came into reach - the rope snapped... catapulting the kitten to who knows where. The pastor searched in vain for the lost creature and finally prayed, commending it into God's care.

A few days later as the pastor was grocery shopping he saw one of his parishioners, whom he know hated cats, buying cat food. He questioned her, and she said, "Pastor, let me tell you about it. My little daughter has always wanted a kitten. A few days ago she was pestering me again asking for a kitten. I told her, 'If God sends you a kitten from heaven - you can have one, otherwise stop asking!' Well," she continued, "my daughter went outside and knelt in the front yard and began to pray. I'd never have believed it, but Pastor, I saw it with my own eyes. Right out of heaven, paws splayed with a look of terror on its face

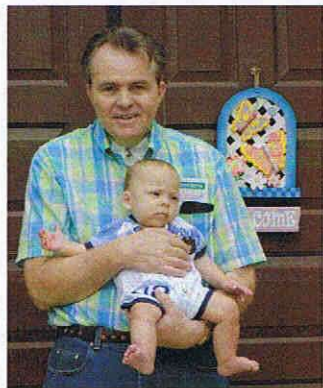
came flying a kitten and it landed right in front of my kneeling daughter." She shrugged her shoulders helplessly, "What could I say after that?"

When I (Trena) first heard this story (which they say is true) I said to myself, "Some may relate to the daughter's answered prayer, others to the mother or pastor but for me... I feel like that kitten! I know God has a plan for my life and often I am launched or catapulted completely outside my comfort zone to who knows where, to fulfill my destiny. Such has been this past year as Tim was air evacuated from the Dominican Republic to Mayo Clinic on 1-31-06. But through it all, God has been so faithful.



Melody (Trena's Sister) with Neal, Darren, Trena, Rodney & Tim at Mayo Clinic, MN.

Update on Tim...



Tim with great-nephew Timmy.

Tim is still undergoing treatment at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN for a non-malignant Pituitary brain

tumor. We praise God that he continues to make progress and has had no major setbacks. Though his tongue movement is still limited – his ability to speak and swallow are improving. Currently he is in the process of being weaned from the PEG feeding tube. He is not able to manipulate his tongue to chew – but he can eat soft, smooth foods and drink Ensure™ type liquid nutrition. He still has a Trach – which he plugs during the day so that he can talk and uncorks it at night so his tongue will not block his breathing.

Tim's next MRI will be January 25, 2007. We are praying that the tumor will have shrunk enough to allow us to return to our ministry and home in the Dominican Republic. Thank-you for your continued prayers. Tim is pleased to report that he has been able to preach several times in recent months.

Current Visit Home to the D.R.

As I write this letter Rodney, Neal, Darren and I (Trena) are home in the D.R. for two weeks to checkup on the mission base. (Tim is with his mother in Indiana in our absence.)

Saturday morning Kids Club at La Cas Grande (our home and mission base) has been a highlight of our week for over 1 years. We've really missed the opportunity to plant the Word of God in these children's hearts and lives. We prayed that God would bring the children. God REALLY answered that prayer. Apartments have recently opened nearby and the first week 382 attended! I had tears of joy as I welcomed these precious children.

While most of you were enjoying Thanksgiving with family and friends – our family and some friends were packaging Christmas gifts for distribution at Kids Club on Saturday.



Trena with Luis, Sue, Bryan, Catelyn DeHoff, packaging Christmas gifts.



350 children filed through our gate last Saturday,



I shared the story of Ruth, an ancestor of Jesus Christ. Almost every hand was raised when I invited the children to pray to receive Jesus and ask God to use their lives to make a difference in this world.



filling our carport, driveway and porch to overflowing.



Then we distributed the gifts, which brought great joy!



We worshipped God in song...



Children walking home after Kids Club. We have also been helping the DeHoffs with the adoption of little Luis whom we told about in our Aug. 2001 newsletter.

As an infant, Luis was burned in a house fire. He received treatment in the States, hosted by the DeHoffs. After his return to the D.R. we foster cared for him for many months. By the end of this year Luis should legally be a DeHoff!

Upcoming...Outreach to Peru.

JANUARY 8 – 19, 2007, Calvary Chapel Rochester – the church we are attending in Minnesota is going to Peru and the three boys and I (Trena) are going with them. (Tim is not yet allowed to travel overseas.) Missions are our heart and it has been so fulfilling to be able to help the team learn Spanish songs, several dramas, and puppet songs in preparation for ministry there. The team of twenty-five plans to minister in Lima for a few days, then travel by bus over the highest Andes to a remote mountain village where a new church is being planted. We plan to do open-air evangelism in the park, school evangelism, tract distribution and orphanage ministry. Please pray for fruitful ministry as we carry the Good News of Jesus to those lost in the darkness of sin.

Personal Notes...

Rodney's Remarks: I have had a busy, enjoyable summer in Minnesota... studying making new friends, riding bikes, taking photos of flowers and watching summer turn to fall and then to winter. I've learned a lot in my home schooling. Some of my most thought

provoking books have been, *Unveiling Islam, World History, The Federalists Papers* and *Puritan Sermons*.

Neal's Notes: This fall I enjoyed going with my friend, Nathan bow hunting for deer. I've liked going yard sale-ing in MN I bought a recurve bow and bargain sound equipment to take to the D.R.

Darren's Details: I've got 11 goldfish. In the D.R. I liked building a fort with my friend, José Miguel. We boys all have residency in the Dominican Republic now.

In Christ's Love and Joyful Service,

Tim, Trena, Rodney, Neal & Darren

Missionaries in the Dominican Republic

Phone: 507-282-0111 (Rochester, MN)

Phone/Fax in the D.R. 1-809-736-7722

<johnsonfamilydr@yahoo.com>

MAIL CARRIER ADDRESS:

Tim & Trena Johnson

Sgt. - 12330 (Delivered
7990 - 15th St. E. Weekly)

Sarasota FL 34243 USA

U.S.A. BUSINESS ADDRESS:

Tim & Trena Johnson #125

C/O In His Service, Inc.

PO Box 50144

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NOTE: Your gifts for our ministry are tax deductible if made payable to: **"In His Service."** Please put **"For #125"** in the memo. (Do Not put our names anywhere on your check. IRS rule.)

Thank-you! We ♥ & appreciate you!

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SGO - 12330
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C/O Agape Flights
100 Airport Ave
Venice, FL 34285-3901