

The Campbell Chronicles



The
Angola
Team
June,
2009

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Check out our blog!

www.rustyandlaura.blogspot.com

Visit our team website at:

www.angolateam.org

If you would like to know how you or your church can be involved in our family's ministry in Angola, please email us for more information. You may also download our fundraising packet directly from our blog.

Sponsoring Church Found!

We are thrilled to report that we have found our sponsoring church! The Hillsboro Church of Christ in Nashville, TN, has agreed to assume oversight of our family and our future ministry in Angola. They will also provide half of our salary. We praise God for their commitment to us and to our vision. This has been a huge boost to our morale, and somehow, Angola seems like much more of a reality now, not just a dream anymore!

Our search for a sponsoring church is over, but the task of fundraising has really just begun. We still need to raise the other half of our salary, as well as our work fund and one-time relocation expenses. Please prayerfully consider how you or your church might partner with us in the work in Angola.

Our team continues to work with Missions Resource Network as part of our preparation. In April, we were guests at MRN's annual benefit dinner where we had the opportunity to meet and network with many missions-minded people. In May, we attended a Church Planting Movements conference in the Dallas area, sponsored by MRN, as a component of our Strategy Workshop. Also in

attendance at the conference were two Angolan church leaders, Andre Banda and Charles Kambungo. Following the conference, the men on the team spent some time processing some of what they had learned and discussing church planting strategies with these two.

In May, our entire team was privileged to present at the annual Pepperdine Bible Lectures. We taught a class entitled "New Strategies for New Fields in Africa: The Case of Angola." We had a decent turnout and were well-received. We also hosted an informational breakfast one morning. Of course, we enjoyed the lectures themselves. For Rusty and me especially, it was great to reconnect with so many of our friends on the West coast. Being in sunny Malibu, California was an added bonus!

We will be moving to Nashville in mid-July to spend the next several months with the Hillsboro Church. Our time there will be spent building relationships with the church members as well as raising the rest of our funds. Our goal is to leave for language study in Portugal by January, 2010. After about nine months in Portugal, will be ready to go on to Angola!



The men on the team recently had an opportunity to discuss church planting strategies with two Angolan church leaders, Andre Banda and Charles Kambungo, during their visit to the United States. Also pictured is Sam Shewmaker, longtime missionary to Africa.

Prayer Requests

- Praise for the safe arrival of our son, Stephen Thomas Campbell
- Praise for the Hillsboro Church of Christ, our overseeing church
- Praise for safety and health during all our recent travels.
- Pray for God to raise up churches and individuals who will partner with us in this ministry.
- Pray for our move to Nashville to go smoothly.
- Pray for safety and health as we continue traveling.
- Pray for our team – for healthy team dynamics and for wisdom in decision-making.

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

~Psalm 139:13-14

A New Baby and Lots of Traveling

The last three months have been very busy for our family. We joyfully welcomed our second son, Stephen Thomas Campbell, on April 6. We praise God for a safe and quick delivery, and for a healthy, thriving baby. Stephen is such a delight and is so far proving to be very easy-going and laid-back. Alex has adjusted well to his new brother and is such a good little helper. He loves to hold Stephen, give him kisses, and sing to him. He is anxiously awaiting the day when Stephen is old enough to play with him!

In May, Rusty graduated with his Master of Arts in Christian Ministry from Harding Graduate School. Our entire family traveled to Memphis for the ceremony. Stephen was just over three weeks old, but there was no way I was going to miss watching him receive his diploma!

Following Rusty's graduation, we traveled to California for the Pepperdine Bible Lectures, then to Abilene for my brother's graduation, and finally made our way back to Detroit. We enjoyed a visit from my sister Julie and her three girls, all the way from Cochabamba, Bolivia. Alex really enjoyed having his cousins around to play with, and Julie and I got in some good talks, in between refereeing children and all the shopping she had to do. We were all sad to see them go. Her visit was especially meaningful to me, as I am not sure when we will have the opportunity to see them again after we leave the United States.

In June, our family enjoyed almost two weeks at a house on the shores of Torch Lake in northern Michigan, thanks to the generosity of some friends at the Livonia Church of Christ. It was a combination anniversary trip and family vacation and proved to be wonderful time of rest, relaxation, and rejuvenation for us. We fished; we swam; we kayaked; we played games; we read; we watched movies; we roasted marshmallows over a fire in the backyard; we scrapbooked; we witnessed some stunning sunsets; we sang and prayed together. We came home refreshed and refocused and ready for the busy weeks and months that lie ahead.

Please keep us in your prayers through all the transitions that the next few months will hold. For a list of specific prayer needs, see the sidebar at the left. We thank God for your prayers and support which sustain and encourage us. May he continue to richly bless you!



Rusty and teammate Danny Reese

