



Pastor Jeffrey P. Hoag, Paige and Johnny at the United Baptist Church, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

Almost finished Home Assignment.

We finished our home assignment in North Bay Ontario. Johnny preached at 1st Baptist North Bay and it was live on the radio. We want to thank Pastor Bob Rittenhouse for this opportunity. We feel like we have driven all over this beautiful province of Ontario, but we know that we still missed speaking with some of you. We don't have the words to say how thankful we are to all of you who hosted us over the last year. You have all been so kind not only in hosting us at your various churches, mission groups and associations, but also in your prayers and financial support for us. We are so very blessed to be partnered with all of you. We are looking forward to getting back to our ministry in August and seeing our friends and co-workers again. We also want to thank Anne Drost and Eileen Moore-Crispin from CBM who work hard and go out of their way to help us do our deputation, making contacts and keeping us on track. Thank you Anne and Eileen for all you did for us, and all you continue to do when we are on the field.

Missionary in Residence

We had three different 'Missionary in Residence' experiences during this home assignment. First at Avenue Road Baptist in Cambridge, then at Whitby Baptist and finally at Markham Baptist. All three were different and great! We want to thank Pastors Brian Criag, Ross Carkner and Tom Cullen for the opportunities to fellowship and share our stories with their congregations. We loved connecting in a more in depth way with each of these congregations.

We also attended the BWOQ (Baptist Women of Ontario and Quebec) convention. Johnny felt a little overwhelmed with the over 200 ladies who had registered, but we both enjoyed the time and fellowship. Paige spoke briefly during dinner, about how your prayers are so meaningful to us.

Paige went to Atlantic Canada.

"Paige had a wonderful visit doing deputation in Atlantic Canada. She spoke at some churches and she spoke at the ABW/UBWMU convention on Saturday May 24th. The convention was well attended and the Friday and Saturday night events were filled to the capacity of Atlantic Baptist University's auditorium, with over 400 people attending. Under the theme, "Starting Fresh", using a new program format and holding it in May rather than August, this convention was considered an effective event and a big success. Atlantic Canada is very beautiful! Next time we come home the whole family wants to go to Atlantic Canada.



Paige and Maureen Nickerson from Clark's Harbor United Stone Baptist Church, Nova Scotia.

Team Support News

Our team support is going well, but as many of you know we are not 100% supported yet, and so there are still many opportunities to partner with us financially. We want to thank all of you who support us in team ministry both in prayer and financially. We can return to Indonesia again because of your on-going love and desire for God's Kingdom work. We also have been raising funds for a vehicle, and we wanted to tell you

that we are getting close to our goal we are now at \$4,660.

Family News

The girls are off to Camp Kwazind for one week in July courtesy of Markham Baptist Church (thank you Markham Baptist for this wonderful gift to our family). This is their first camping experience in Canada and they are looking forward to it. John and I are so proud of Nakita and Shoshannah. They both jumped into school here in Canada and did very well in their studies (even French which they did not study in Indonesia). They also joined and participated in all kinds of sports and extra-school activities. Even those that were new to them (like skiing). They were very brave, and pushed themselves to try new things and make new friends, all the time knowing that they will have to say goodbye again and move. We know that this was very hard, and they both kept a positive attitude during the ups and downs, and gave it all they had. Now they are both sad (as we knew they would be) to say goodbye to their new friends. Way to go girls. "You rock!"



... news, from Nakita. ...

"This fish I caught is huge, OK maybe not huge, but big enough that we could eat it if Mom doesn't get a hold of it and let it go first!"

The girls have enjoyed

spending time with Grandma and Grandpa Byrne and with their aunts Susy & Christine, uncle Glenn and all the cousins.

...news from Shoshannah... **"Nakita did you see that shot I just made!"** Shoshannah and Nakita played basket ball in Warton when we visited Frank St. Baptist Church. We want to thank Gord and Ellie Cox who hosted us at their beautiful B&B called "Down A Country Lane." We had a great time Saturday night with Gord and Ellie, and Sunday with everyone at Frank St.



Shoshannah and Johnny celebrated birthdays in May, thank you for all your cards, e-cards and good wishes.

Ask Us Questions

Thank you to all of those who have been asking such great questions as we meet with you and share our

ministry. If we don't meet you in person, please send us your question via e-mail and we will try to post an answer in our next issue of Sentosa.

Paige, what do you mean when you say "Through your prayers we are achieving what we can't".

Well, God asks us all to do things that stretch us. I think this holds true for everyone, not just those of us in full time ministry. As missionaries we are asked to do a lot of things, too many in fact, and sometimes we are asked to do things we know we can't achieve. Not to say we are completely incapable but we are asked to do things outside our area of giftedness, and many times we can't say "no" for cultural reasons, for servant-hood reasons, for partnership reasons, etc. So we find ourselves attempting things we know we will fail at. We however, have the honour and privilege of partnering with you all in prayer and so we send out the call. "Pray for ..." and, through our faith and commitment – and most importantly through your faithfulness and prayers for us, God achieves His Kingdom's work. We look back at success stories and say – "how did that happen? I couldn't do that." We know that it is because of your prayers that we are used by God, and we achieve things we know we can't. Your prayers for us mean so much more than you know, and we appreciate all your prayers for our family and for our ministry. This is what partnership is all about.

How would you respond to those who say that missionaries are a throw back to colonialism - that missionaries think themselves better than others and that missionaries are exporting our (as in western) "way of life" to other cultures? What right do we have to disturb other cultures? Wow what a question! Let us put aside for a moment the fact that we believe we know "truth" that is relevant for all cultures (I know that is huge – and is the basis for missions) and look at this from a rather secular

perspective since we assume those asking are not believers. There are those who would say that we are ethnocentric, that we are exporting our culture – and wish that culture groups around the world remain untouched so as to preserve the many varied and wonderful cultures of the world. So to this end, they want to protect people and cultures by preventing missionaries from going. We have two responses to these people. First I would say that there is a disconnect between their beliefs. In essence they wish to deny other people groups the freedom of choice that they profess to hold so dear, so they end up patronizing others by making the decisions for them to withhold information – treating them in essence like children incapable of making decisions for themselves. Which ones consider themselves better from this perspective? Secondly, we would say that today mission is not the same as mission of long ago where missionaries told people groups how to dress, how to live, and part and parcel

of the good news of Christ was “European” culture. Most missionaries today respect and work with the culture groups they encounter and are excited by how other groups will bring the good news of Christ into their own culture. Revelation talks about all the culture groups standing before the throne of God, and missionaries are excited by how culture groups believe the good news and its manifestation within varied cultures. We are excited by the thought of how Banjarese believers will dress and worship and the songs they will use to Praise God.

Prayers.

1. Pray for our family as we pack up, prepare and return to Pontianak Indonesia in August. Pray for our safe travels from Toronto all the way to Pontianak starting on August 17th.
2. Pray for our remaining outstanding documentation items. Johnny’s Permanent Resident card has yet to be issued. We cannot leave Canada without this.

3. Please pray for us as this is our 3rd time out. It seems to take more energy to get ourselves ready, journey across the world and settle back into a new home. We are all weary of packing and moving and setting up home, so pray for both our energy and motivation levels.
4. Pray for Johnny as he prepares to return, begin building new relationships with co-workers, and start a new ministry in church planting in West Kalimantan.

To learn how you can be a part of our ministry please contact Canadian Baptist Ministries, 7185 Millcreek Drive, Mississauga, ON L5N 5R4 OR Visit the website at: www.cbmin.org

With all our Love and Prayers,
Sincerely in Christ,
Johnny, Paige, Nakita and Shoshannah.

Designed to Create, “Spirings Within Our Souls”

by Paige Byrne-Mamahit March 2008

elusive entities
spring within, unknown yet fully owned.
mystery fueled, massaged, fertilized by creation that surrounds us
snow flake to sunset, word, truth, prayer inspire
indefinable, it captures then it retreats.

ingenious, innovative
thoughts glide through our consciousness.
energy begins, even while destination remains unknown.
secrets emerge and begin, then solidify become, are born.
strange and new but familiar, obvious even.

story, blueprint, ballet and song
computers, paintings, problems solved.
answers never hidden - uncloaked
ideas predestined to be are born.
marvels longing to exist, suddenly become.

challenging, inspiring
initiating, changing, suddenly grip us
connecting our beings with truth and grace.
passions sweeping us through places unknown
refresh us back to that which is woven into our souls.

sleeping in secrecy
the intended, continuous ability to originate springs within our souls.
likeness intertwined into our being,
ingenious spark of that which formed us remains
drawing creation to creator.