

THE WARNOCKS' ESCAPADES

Our Home Page: <http://warnocksescapades.com>

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Ted's Advance # 13030Z

Ted's E-Mail: missionsted@gmail.com

Carla's Advance # 13031Z

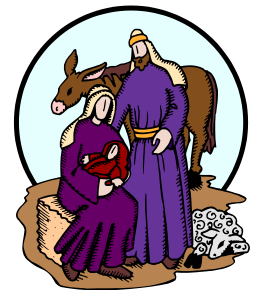
Carla's E-Mail: carlanursemgr@gmail.com

From Carla: I have had many of our missionaries in my thoughts and prayers in the past months. Some have had serious injuries and illnesses. Some have faced stresses that have adversely affected their wellbeing. The geographic distance between my patients and myself requires me to be present with them via technology. I often wish I could sit by their side, touch them, and care for them. I am blessed that through the United Methodist Church I am able to serve God with the missionaries as their colleague and as their nurse. Please remember to pray for the missionaries.



On Thanksgiving Day I had a phone call on the 24/7 Wellness cell phone. I was sure that something terrible had happened. However, I received news that I was indeed very thankful for - one missionary was doing much better!

As we have entered the Advent season, I have noticed that I am being politically correct in wishing people Happy Holidays. I feel that I might offend if I say "Merry Christmas". It is a deeply sad feeling. We have a banner on our fence with a manger scene like this picture. This week a neighbor knocked at our door and told us that he appreciated this message of Christianity. We hope that it ministers to others as well.



This picture was taken in November 1977 as I held our first-born daughter. When I held her I knew that I would do all I could to love and protect her. I know that Mary must have felt that way about her first-born son, Jesus. The son who proposed a new and radical way to live in relationship with God, each other, and our world. A way to live in God's grace. A way to live loving and caring for others. I hope that this Christmas season reminds you of the message of the angels: "Glory to God in the heavenly heights, Peace to all men and women on earth who please him" (Luke 2: 14 The Message).

From Ted: This past Sunday I had an opportunity to share how we (as United Methodists) are acting upon our faith through UMCOR. Yes, I went to church dressed in my UMCOR vest, boots, cargo pants, and a backpack filled with the normal items that included such things as my personal mosquito net, miscellaneous power plugs, an international cell phone, a spare copy of my passport, flashlight, and even anti-malaria medication. For good measure I also included an artificial limb that we use in our program in Sierra Leone and a copy of my travel book "Just Enough Portuguese". While the time with my fellow class members was great, and sharing where and how we serve, it reminded me of how much we truly have to be thankful for.



Ghana: Thanks for the training forum that Imagine No Malaria facilitated in Ghana this year where my efforts focused on Health Board development and capacity building. Participants wrote: "I have been empowered in identifying the indicators, input, output, budget, monitoring and evaluation and health board importance." And, "Through the presentations and sharing of experiences from different conferences, we will be able to improve where we have been weak and excel where we have been doing well by excellent topics with excellent presentations."

Angola: Thanks for both trips this fall to assist in a multi-year culmination by the Rocky Mountain UMC Annual Conference to begin the distribution of a Malaria program. Thanks for my multi-entry Visa that allowed me to lead a health board training review that would include logistical and operational planning whereby the West Angola UMC Health Board prepared an operational plan to launch a Malaria program in Bom Jesus, Angola. Thanks for the efforts of the West Angola UMC leadership in acquiring all the necessary documentation that would allow for a visiting team from the US to be travel



to Angola for this program. (I should most likely give thanks for the current technology that allowed us to send the numerous documents from Angola to NYC, to Texas - Angola Consulate Office for Visa processing - to NYC, and then back and forth again as the process never fully satisfies the processing requirements the first time.)



Thanks for the cooperation from Bishop Domingos to the trustees of the Bom Jesus church to ensure that everything would be ready to receive the visiting members for the US. And thanks for our Partner (Africare) that worked in concert with the Angolan Government and the West Angola UMC to ensure that 9,000 Malaria nets would be in place for my second visit to Angola. Of note, while the Bom Jesus leadership was working with us to implement the Imagine No Malaria program, they were also are using revenue from the placement of a cell tower on their property to build a new church.

For Sharing: Thanks for allowing us to continue to be in service as United Methodist Missionaries. For more photos, stories, and sharing link on the following: <http://warnocksescapades.com/news/Newssupplement2012.pdf>

The Warnock Home Front: It has been a full year. Yes, during this holiday season we are frequently reminded of last year's untimely death of our son-in-law. We cannot escape this reality as we prepare for a trip to Arlington National Cemetery in Washington this month as Sam's remains will be interred there. A visit to Arlington last month (as our oldest daughter was running the Marine Marathon) gave us an opportunity to reflect upon the freedom that so many have given their lives for. We know our faith is strong, and yet, there is no escaping the harsh realities of war and conflicts.



Other news: Our grandchildren have a creative side and we have adopted a new member of the family. Baily, a 7 year old Cocker Spaniel was adopted by us. She, along with the rest of us will travel to Valdosta to be with our youngest daughter (Ashley) this Christmas. As you might surmise, we so look forward to seeing Ashley where we



will also be celebrating her Christmas Birthday.

After finishing work on a porch rail, there were many scraps of wood left over. My thought was to throw them away. The boys had other ideas and they wanted to build something. As each

board was nailed together the shape grew, as did the eventual use of the completed "thing". As you may see, the discarded boards have been placed together to form a ticket stand. This is what the grandboys decided it was to be. They have now made a ticket box (cardboard box) have tickets and painted the their ticket stand to raise canned goods for the food pantry at our church. Yes, one more blessing to be thankful this year.



Recycled Message: As I was preparing for this past Sunday's UMCOR presentation to our Sunday School class, I found our greeting from 2002. The words seem to still fit our world today. "Somehow, during this past year, the mood of the nation and our world seems to have changed. Have you noticed? There is no escaping the reality of corporate greed and irresponsibility. Television and radio programs are constantly reminding us of what we are doing wrong and headlines such as "War on terror and America prepares for war" are all but common place. We know that death, hunger, and severe poverty are part of our world. Still in the midst of these overwhelming reports, good things happen every day. People's lives are changed and their faith challenged by serving in mission – locally and internationally. Jesus said: "you shall love your neighbor as yourself." As loving Christians, may we all embrace our neighbors and share the gift that God has entrusted to use. May this holiday season be a time of sharing and giving". The Warnock Family