

**THE WARNOCK'S  
ESCAPADES  
CHRISTMAS 2006**



Missionary  
Advance #s  
Ted 13030Z  
Carla 13031Z

*When we measure JOYS  
against the CHALLENGES.*

*we find the blessings  
of God in our lives.*

Challenges	Joys
Ashley continues to struggle in her disability.	Many people care and support us in our church, our community, and the people who work with and for Ashley. We also found a Christian psychiatrist who is a blessing for our family.
Ted's travels in mission and time away from home.	Ted's amazing experiences, special relationships, mission work, and touching stories he shares. Wonderful supporting churches - thank you!
Carla finding the time and energy for her college work.	Learning and growing in my passion - nursing. Improving my knowledge to better serve in mission. GBGM helping me to continue my education.
The disturbing situations around the world such as in Afghanistan, Iraq, the Congo, Nepal, Palestine, Zimbabwe, and so many other countries.	We as United Methodists, have a presence as a church, with our missionaries, though UMCOR, with our prayers, and in financial support around the world. For example, the mine dogs UMCOR placed in Mozambique are now working in Afghanistan. We cannot solve anything ourselves, but as Christians, when we band together and with our God leading us, we can accomplish many things!
The distance that our family members are from us.	Free long distance nights and weekends, computer camera allowing live pictures and conversations with our grandchildren, e-mail and sending photographs, great highways for travel, a good car, and 4 weeks vacation. We also have some really great friends here in Atlanta.
Family stresses - like everyone else!	Thankful that our many family members from 1 year-old baby Noah to 95 year-old Great-great-grandma Darrow are generally healthy and hopefully are fulfilling God's plan in their lives.
Saying goodbye to missionaries who are ending service or retiring.	Getting to know these special people and the mission they served. Helping them in their transition. Being a person they can call. And, getting to know new missionaries entering service.
Jake, our dog of 12 years, illness and finally his death in November.	12 years with Jake who gave us his love, devotion, kisses, protection, and fun. Adopting Honey, a blonde cocker spaniel, who instantly loved Jake and has helped us all through our loss.
Death of friends.	Having known them. Being there for their family. Knowing that they are now in God's care.

**A God-Incidence from Carla**

I try to see the God-incidences in my life. I find if I am tuned-in, there are many times that I recognize God's hand in the situation. On Monday, 11 December, I was sitting in the Emory Clinic laboratory waiting area with the Mission Interns. These young adults had just returned from their 1 ½ year overseas assignments and are getting their Wellness exams prior to their 1 ½ years assignments in the US. A middle-aged man was sitting there and hungrily chagrined out loud that he would have to wait until they were all done to get his fasting blood drawn. I began to talk to him and very soon we discovered he was a father of two sons - one 23 year-old home after graduating college and one younger who has been active in several mission trips including Honduras. Then, after I asked if his son went to Honduras with the Honduras Outreach, he told us he was a Methodist minister. Wow! Each of the Mission Interns then shared with him their incredible ministries in Kenya, South Africa, Northern Ireland, Palestine, Columbia, Philippines, and Lebanon. One mission intrigued him: the use of drama in mission. His older son's degree is in theater arts and he was surprised to learn how much drama and theater is used throughout the world to help people communicate about difficult issues such as racism, violence, gender equality, and HIV/AIDS in a non-threatening, often humorous way. He planned to tell his son about this. This sharing was a blessing to the mission interns, the pastor, and me!



## Ted's Travels

During this holiday season, it seems fitting to reflect upon the travels we have shared this year.

- In January, I made travels back and forth to UMCOR Sager Brown (USB). These times, while difficult for our family, benefited thousands throughout areas impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.
- In February, I traveled to Herndon Virginia. I took part in a celebration of a church energized by their church members raising funds to provide a delivery vehicle to USB. This truck, named Amos, has delivered thousands of pounds of supplies to those in need.
- Also, in February, I traveled to Liberia. While there, I witnessed the joys of a nation struggling to recapture a balance in their political life and our United Methodist Church in action in many ways.
- In March I traveled to Mississippi to lead a group of future leaders from the North Georgia Annual Conference to understand how to maximize the use of the resources available during the hurricane recovery period and how to ensure that mission was at the heart of their future trips. I don't remember much about April and May. They seem to run together.
- I visited Washington DC to participate in a meeting facilitated by RONCO, (a world recognized leader in demining operations,) whereby a partnership of RONCO, Marshal Legacy Group, (specializing in placing Mine Detection Dogs in troubled areas), and Africare, (an organization that provides education and development in struggling nations in Africa), and UMCOR would develop a plan to provide increased landmine removal capacity in Angola.
- In June, I made presentations to the North Georgia United Methodist Men at the Tucker UMC, and shared how partnerships are formed during recovery operations. Later that month, I spoke at their annual meeting at Annual Conference and shared some of our success stories.
- In July, we traveled north to the Gettysburg, PA area to speak to the New Oxford Emory UMC, and the Guldens Salem UMC. It was a special time. Emory UMC has become a Covenant church for Carla & I. While in Pennsylvania, we also visited with Carla's parents, toured General Eisenhower's home, visited with family, and witnessed floods from a storm along the banks of the Susquehanna river that was reminiscent of hurricane Agnes that Carla & I experienced one week after we were married.
- I recall August as a homework month. There is a lot of planning and documentation that needs to do before any commitment can be done to begin humanitarian operations in a country. Angola has a long and rich history. Unfortunately, until a few years ago, it had been plagued by years of dictatorial rule and repression of human rights.
- September took me to Angola to establish relationships with key leadership partners to prepare for a humanitarian demining program. While there, I met with the Angolan Director of Mine Action, Bishop Gaspar Joao Domingos, (West Angola), Bishop Jose Quipungo, U.N representatives, and other church leaders. In addition to touring Angola's current demining training center, I also had an opportunity to deliver the Sunday message at Central UMC in Angola (on the grounds of the Annual Conference). My trip was made special by the support and assistance of the Executive Director at Africare's Angola office.
- October was filled with post Angola research and positioning of donors to meet a planned response (noted above), waiting for an appropriate response from governmental officials, planning for a trip to Mississippi, and more homework.
- October and early November found me in Mississippi leading a short-term mission team from our home church of Decatur First UMC in Decatur Ga. This was a great trip for many reasons, and not enough space here to share (see more by visiting our webpage). We stayed in Waveland, MS, worked in Pearlinton, MS (location where the eye of hurricane Katrina came ashore). Pearlinton is 4 miles from the Gulf of Mexico and they still had a surge of over 17 feet. We replaced a roof on a two-story home, removed trees, sanded rooms, and rescued a dog - (don't ask).
- November also gave us time to spend with our daughter, son-in-law, and two special grandsons in Virginia Beach, VA. "On vacation", I re-plumbed their bathroom, hung drywall, spackled, and even put down Pergo flooring in their family room. Also in late November, I had a double hernia repair. This, I am still recovering from. Carla filled in for me and traveled to Conyers UMC to make a presentation. This small church actively supports UMCOR Sager Brown and disaster response in North Georgia and plans to covenant with me.
- December finds me recovering from the above mentioned hernia repair, writing and answering more E-mail than some days seems possible, and looking forward to a trip to Herndon VA to speak at Floris UMC. This new Covenant church has pledged their Holiday offering towards demining efforts in Angola. (FYI, last year's holiday offering was nearly \$100,000)
- Yes, we have much to celebrate. God has enabled us to serve, and to be thankful for all we have.