

News from Marcie Huson in Bellingham, WA - January 2008

It's so good to be back in the most beautiful place on earth (Western Washington State) for a few months and be able to spend time with family and friends! I'm glad to get a chance to see so many of you during these three months.

HUGE Thank you!

It is with joy that I say again how thankful I am to be fully funded for 2008. Because of the generous commitments of churches and individuals (like you!), I am able to take time during this home assignment to visit supporting churches and just say "Thank you!"



This has happened, in part, because Garstang Free Methodist Church in England is picking up about 1/3 of my support. Garstang has been my church family for this past year and starting in April, they have asked me to serve part-time as associate pastor. It is a church with a real heart for the world. In discussing the possibility of me going on staff, Pastor Simon Gardner said, "We hold you with an open hand. Europe needs to be your first priority." I look forward to serving alongside the pastoral team there, as well as continuing the educational work on the continent. Being "bi-vocational" in this sense will give me more credibility with our national leaders – most of whom work full- or part-time alongside their pastoral and leadership duties.

Prayer and Praise:

*It's exciting to see growth and change in our churches as I visit. And to meet so many people with a heart for world missions.

* Four families went together to provide me with "wheels" while I'm here on home assignment! That was a wonderful and unexpected blessing!!

*Pray for wisdom and balance as I spend time speaking in churches, visiting with family and friends, working on my thesis, and shopping (things are SO much cheaper here than in the UK!! J). I want to make good use of the short time I have here in the Pacific North West and naturally, people are the priority.

*God's been putting it on my heart to really develop my prayer life. Please pray for consistency and commitment in this area. There are so many doors that only God can open. I want to not only say this, but more and more live as if I believe it.

*Next week (Jan. 28-31) is the New Missionary Orientation in Budapest, Hungary. Please pray for those attending and for Lynette Sykora, Larry Winckles and the rest of our Budapest team as they lead and host. Mellingers (Bulgaria), Millers (Belgium), Hamleys (Spain) and Kris Mahnke (Canary Islands) will be attending.

*Early this month I attended the funeral of a friend here in Bellingham. Jeff DeBruine, 49 year-old husband and father of two, died from a sudden heart attack on Jan. 1st. Over 700 people were at the memorial service to honor this man who lived a life with faith and love. At one point, Adam Fulton, one of his dearest friends, addressed his own son and Jeff's. "Look around. This is what it means to have lived a good life." Please pray for the family he has left behind.

Stateside Schedule:

Jan. 27: Snohomish, WA

Jan. 27-29: Pacific NW Pastors' Prayer Retreat

Feb. 2-3: Olympia, WA

Feb. 6-8: Anchorage, AK

Feb. 10: Seattle First Church, WA

Feb. 15-17: Wenatchee, WA

Feb. 23: Burien, WA missions' luncheon

Feb. 24: Ballard, WA

Feb. 25: Warm Beach Senior Community, WA

Mar. 2: Lakeview (Seattle), WA

Mar. 8-9: Renton, WA

Mar. 12-17: vacation in California (visiting my younger brother and his wife with my best friend Gayle!)

Mar. 30: Mt. Vernon, WA

Mar. 31: fly back to Preston, UK

Thank you for your prayers during this traveling and speaking.

Oops...

...I realized recently that I brought the wrong cable with me. I can't download any pictures off my camera. So my newsletters will be very verbal for the next few months!!! (I pulled the pic of Mt. Baker from on-line!)

Again, thank you so much for your faithful prayer and support!! If you are interested in giving on-line, or just seeing more about what's going on, check out the Free Methodist World Missions web site: www.fmwm.org. They've set up a system so that you can give on line and still have it credited towards your church's mission goal.

*In Him,
Marcie*