

Hello from sunny and warm Wisconsin...nearly 50 yesterday! January is normally bitterly cold by this time of year so we are taking full advantage of this awesome weather! We are a week into 2012 and wanted to share from our hearts something for you to join us in prayer over. For the past year Missy and I have had many a conversation about our ministry here and how we are so blessed to serve amongst these students. Being an eye-witness to God's transforming grace in someone's life is both humbling and challenging...and we get to see HIM at work so often.

One of the aspects that we continually look at is the balance of our ministry involvement and the role we as a family play in that ministry. We are headed into our 6th year of ministry here and know that we really don't have much ground to stand on in speaking into lives if our own family is not being led well. As we have talked we have looked back on where all God has led us and the many privileged opportunities He has given us to serve HIM. We have been members with NTM since 2002 and have lived in many a location☺...sometimes even right next to you! So, with that small background we wanted to share a new adventure that we believe the Lord is leading us towards...

Now, before you think something major is coming...it isn't...we are thriving here and plan on being here until the Lord leads elsewhere and we feel that we still have many opportunities to be used by HIM here at the school. *What we are praying about and moving towards is buying our own home.* For the vast majority of you this is just a fact of life and very normal. When we headed into the jungles of Papua New Guinea it was also a normal thing that was needed...a house to build and live in while we ministered there. That was our first and last personal home which we loved during our time there...1/4 inch plywood walls and all! It was home and a place to raise our family. Other than that time in Papua New Guinea, we have been using New Tribes Mission's housing and paying rent. This means that we live and minister in the same location. Not a bad concept at all, and a huge blessing due to the fact that most missionaries couldn't afford their own place. But this lifestyle of not being able to leave work has put a drain on us at times and is something we are beginning to see as not the best way for us to live & maintain a healthy balance for our family. Another aspect that we see as a value is to be out amongst the world...in it but not of it...to be salt and light amongst those who do not yet know HIM and a neighborhood would provide an excellent opportunity. We do in fact live in a "bubble" here of sorts.

So, in short, after 14 years of marriage, which we just celebrated, we feel there is wisdom in starting a new journey and huge step of faith in pursuing getting our own place near the school. Having sought advice and counsel we don't feel in any way that this would hamper our ministry at school, but rather has the potential to really enhance it. We have readjusted our budget and are putting aside funds for a down payment and upkeep of a home. Yes, we know that the economy is still rough and the housing market has crashed but this has opened a door that we probably couldn't have afforded when the market was strong. Just like you, we are dependent on the Lord's provision and realize that support could falter...but so could a job loss change things for you. That is why each one of us needs to remain dependent and fully reliant on HIM...to walk in wisdom and prudence and obey when He leads.

So, we are simply asking if you would you join us in praying for God's timeframe and the right home to purchase when the time is right. We are interested in purchasing something that would require some work...there may even be some opportunities for a small group to come help us on some projects. We are trusting Him and want to be patient with His timing.

Lastly, we have had some of you voice interest in helping towards the purchase of a home. We want you to know that financial help would be a tremendous blessing and a very real need, but also want to assure you that we are being wise stewards with what God has provided and will be faithfully saving until we can afford a home. There is no obligation, just an opportunity if God so leads you. We will be setting up a house fund and if you are lead to give towards this you can see the info listed below on how to do that.

Thanks for allowing us to serve with you...we are so blessed to be teamed up with you! We do pray for you as a family so please continue to pass on ways we can stand with you in prayer.

Because of Him,
Dave, Missy, Talia, Jaeden & Olivia



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To give towards our house fund use the instructions below and include on the memo line "House Fund". Thanks so much!

Support via a check can be made out to New Tribes Mission and in the memo line state that it is for the ministry of Dave & Missy Schroeder. To give online via a debit or credit card: <http://www.ntm.org/give/1036>.; Electronic Fund Transfer and automatic credit card deposits are available to those wishing to send support automatically every month. Set it up online or call 1 (866) 547-2460.