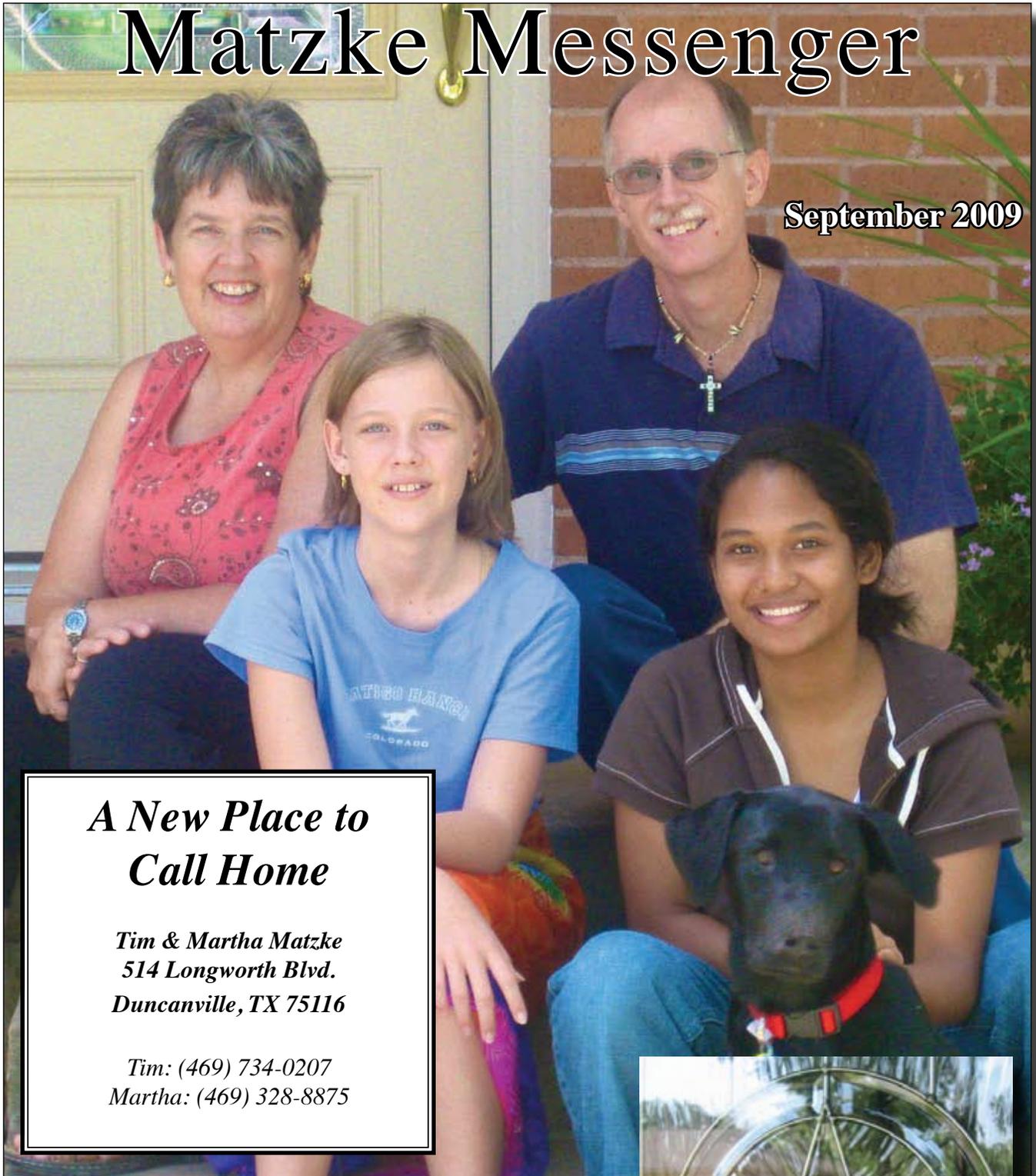


Matzke Messenger

September 2009



A New Place to Call Home

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From the Solomon Islands to the Lone Star State, our family has moved! A new chapter in our lives has begun. We have a new house, new pets and new schools as we re-learn how to be Americans living in the USA. Leaving the Solomons has not been easy, but God has blessed us in so many ways through His people.



Farewell - Solomon Style

The last couple of months in the Solomons were pretty tough for us as we sorted through 11 years of life. We prepared a crate of belongings to ship home and sold and gave away many things while finishing off ministry projects. Leaving the place that has been home to our family was incredibly hard.

The last couple of weeks were filled with farewells; our church, Emily's youth groups, the International School, our colleagues and other groups and friends to whom we have related through the years. In a way we dreaded the farewells, but in another way they were a real blessing.

The Literacy Network hosted a lovely farewell for our family. It was a great blessing to hear our national colleagues thank Tim for all he has done to support and promote literacy in the country. As a result of Tim's efforts, they expressed confidence in their ability to carry on the work. They also acknowledged the part our girls had in our ministry in the Solomons.

One afternoon we sat with the leadership of the national Bible translation organization as they thanked us for our ministry to Bible translation. "We never would have thought to do some of the things you did, or to ask the government to become involved. Because of your vision, Solomon Islanders now respect and support our work much more than before."

The sweet words from our friends were a balm to our aching hearts and we will carry the memories of those special words and gifts for a long time. We miss the Solomons and look forward to being able to support the work there from here in Dallas.

Blessings from God:

- *a special time in England on our way back to the USA*
- *provision of a house which meets our needs*
- *renters for our house in Honiara*
- *friends for the girls*
- *furnishings for the house*

Prayer Requests:

- *Emily and Sarah to settle into life in the USA and feel more at home here*
- *for additional financial support for living in the USA*

Special Need:

We had set aside money to purchase a reliable car when we returned to the US. Due to the delay in renting our house in the Solomons, we have had to tap into that fund. If you would like to help with that need, please send a gift to the Wycliffe address marked 'for Matzke vehicle fund'.

What's Next?

Emily is a Junior at Duncanville High School while Sarah started 7th grade. Both girls are off to a good start and enjoying their classes.

Our administrators asked us to take time to get settled as a family before taking on our new assignments. We have found that we really needed this time as we came home exhausted.

Our first priority is to do what we can to support the work in the Solomons from a distance. In addition we have been asked to consider several important roles here in Dallas.

Before we can start our new assignment though, our first job will be to get our financial support up to the level needed for living in the USA. Currently we lack about \$1000 a month. If you want more information, in how you can be involved, please contact us.

Some things haven't changed:

While we have chosen to live in the USA in order to meet the educational needs of the girls, some things haven't changed. Our commitment to Bible translation and literacy, both in the Solomon Islands and beyond, is as strong as ever.

There are many ways we can continue to support the work in the Solomon Islands; administration, recruitment, Pijin translation and other ways. We have also been asked to consider taking positions here in Dallas at our International Linguistic Center. We will be working with our administrators to find the best ways for us to serve.

Regardless of where we serve, we will continue to depend on the Lord to provide financial support through His people. If you would like to learn more about how you can be involved in our ministry as a financial or prayer partner, please contact us.



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