

# EC Global Scene



# 2008 DECEMBER

| Sunday   | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday  |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|
|  | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4   | 5   | 6 - Sue Haglund  |
| <b>HERE &amp; THERE</b><br>with Randy Sizemore   | <b>PRAYER NEEDS</b><br>BJ & Rachel Whitaker - training in CO | Pray for our five EC churches in Costa Rica                  | Edwin Mises, church plant in Hazleton, PA  | Jim & Janet Stahl - training story tellers to tell the Gospel   | Ron & Brenda Anderson - work in Europe                      | Ken Sears - teaching at Zaporozhye Bible College in Ukraine   |
| 7  | 8  | 9  | 10   | 11  | 12  | 13  |
| <b>December 7</b><br>- Speak at the morning service at Mohn's Hill EC Church                         |  | <b>December 9</b><br>- EC Church Center staff in-service day |  |   |   |   |
| <b>PRAYER NEEDS</b><br>Jonathan & Kathy Wilson - translators in Papua New Guinea                     | Pray for our three EC churches in Japan                      | Lori Pfeffer - severe support need, children's bible clubs   | Janet Baker, retiree - still volunteering at Wycliffe  | Pray for our 39 churches and 35 church plants in Liberia  | Rolando Diaz, church plant in Philadelphia                  | Brian & Missy Wagner - teachers at RVA in Kenya   |
| 14   | 15   | 16   | 17   | 18  | 19  | 20  |
| <b>December 14</b><br>- Speak at morning service at Trinity EC, Womelsdorf                           |  |  |  |   | <b>December 19</b><br>- church Center staff Christmas party |   |
| <b>PRAYER NEEDS</b><br>Jane Heck - teaching and children's ministries in Belize                      | Jim & Bonnie Bound - campus ministries in VT                 | Randy & Chris Amberman - work with Native Americans          | Robert & Bettina Schaeffer - counseling ministry with LIFE   | John & Carolyn Miller - working with Bru language translators   | Mateo & Mai Lou Garcia - church planting in Mexico          | Dave & Conce Roof - church planting in northern Brazil  |
| 21   | 22   | 23   | 24   | 25    | 26  | 27  |
| <b>December 21-January 3</b> - Family vacation   |  |  |  |   |   |   |
| <b>PRAYER NEEDS</b><br>Pray for our 10 EC churches in Mexico   | Jaime Bonnely, church plant in Miami FL                      | Art & Mary Ellen Davis - encouraging local pastors in Kenya  | Pray for our 400+ EC churches in NE India  | Celebrate the Greatest Gift of all - the Messiah!   | Dana Abernethy - new assignment at MMS                      | Jeremy Kunkel - serving with EMI in CO  |
| 28 - Janet Stahl  | 29   | 30   | 31 - Gloria Smethers  | <div data-bbox="1055 1701 1453 1942" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>DECEMBER Missionary Birthdays</b></p> <p>January 2 - Jim Farr<br/>January 5 - Jim Stahl<br/>January 8 - Celia Dick<br/>January 10 - Dan Wills<br/>January 13 (1989) - Mark Anderson</p> <p> *Denotes Retiree</p> </div> |   |   |
| <b>PRAYER NEEDS</b><br>Dan Dixon - preparing to return to Kenya                                      | Jim Farr - preparing to return to PNG                        | Kitty Miller - serving at Payap University in Thailand       | Gloria Smethers - nurse in northern Kenya  |   |   |   |



## Mystery!



**ONE OF MY FAVORITE** television programs is Mystery! on PBS.

Whether it's Agatha Christie's Miss Marple or Ellis Peters' Brother Cadfael, the sleuth always figures out who-done-it by the end of the show, explaining the who, what, when, where, and how. There's something satisfying about gathering the evidence and coming to a logical conclusion; case closed.

This month Christians celebrate a mystery that cannot be explained so easily. How could God, a spiritual entity, send his Spirit into Mary's womb to create flesh? How could Jesus be born fully God and fully human? The Incarnation, the Word made flesh, is still a holy mystery that can never be fully comprehended by our mere mortal minds.

The world will always scoff at us for believing in the mystery of Christ's conception and birth, but they have ignored the evidence just as the Jewish religious leaders ignored the prophecies pointing to Jesus as the Messiah. We may not be able to explain all of the mysteries of our faith, but we can know with certainty that our God loved us enough to send his Son to the world, to provide a means for fallen humanity to reconcile with their Creator. And for that we rejoice!

*"Joy to the world! The Lord is come; Let earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare Him room, And heav'n and nature sing."* ISAAC WATTS

—Pat Strain

### OUR MISSIONARY FAMILY

► Congratulations to **Chris Bowers**, who recently announced his engagement to fellow missionary Deborah Stuart. Deb is a missionary teacher at Ukarumpa, Papua New Guinea and hails from Australia. An April wedding is planned.

► Congratulations also to **Beth and Michael Johnson** in Alaska. Michael was one of less than 100 educators nationwide who received awards from the Milken Foundation. These are considered the 'Oscars of teaching.' The award and cash prize will be presented next spring in California. What a great testimony!

► Congratulations to **Roy and Sue Haglund** who became grandparents again in June. Daughter Sarah and her husband Matt had a son, Benjamin, who joined big sister Isabella. More picture perfect moments!

► **WE NEED YOUR HELP** – **Brian and Missy Wagner** and their three children are scheduled to return to the USA next July for a year furlough. They need a 3-bedroom furnished house in the central to eastern PA area for living quarters. If you know of a possibility or can provide housing for the Wagners, please contact Pat at the Global Ministries office (1-800-866-7584 or [pstrain@eccenter.com](mailto:pstrain@eccenter.com).)

► **BJ and Rachel Whitaker** were commissioned as EC missionaries, and BJ was ordained as an elder in the EC Church, on Sunday, November 2nd. The Whitakers will be in Colorado for missionary training during the month of December. They are waiting for their visas to come through, and hope to leave for Spain as early in 2009 as possible.

► **Justin Wilson**, son of Jonathan and Kathy Wilson, is away from his family during the holidays for the first time. Justin is in his first year of college at Moody Aviation. Please encourage him by sending cards and goodies, if you are so inclined. His mailing address is 212 E. Weile #4 Spokane, WA 99208; His e.mail is [justinian\\_17@yahoo.com](mailto:justinian_17@yahoo.com).

