



Brandell e-Scr@pbook

A monthly report on our life in Vanuatu



This will be an abbreviated edition of our scrapbook as we are in the States this month reporting and visiting...

FURLOUGH UPDATE

We love living and working in Vanuatu, but it is always a pleasure to have the opportunity to return to the States during our regularly scheduled furlough trips. We were a bit nervous about flying internationally with a 2 year old and 3 year old, but thankfully both kids traveled extremely well.

We flew from Vila to Auckland, New Zealand (3.5 hours) and then on to Los Angeles (11+ hours) on May 5. We were surprised when Mema (Shawnda's mom) greeted us at the airport there! We flew to Denver with her and enjoyed spending a week there with the family. I spoke in chapel at Bear Valley that Thursday, presenting a report on the new work taking place in Malekula. It brings back wonderful memories to visit the school and meet the students. We worshiped with the Columbine congregation that Sunday morning, where I delivered our presentation during the Bible class hour and preached during the worship time.

We spent the rest of the month in Oklahoma, which is where my family lives. I enjoyed a quick lunch with longtime friend and fellow Pacific mission worker, Kent Hartman, in OKC the day after we arrived. I presented and preached at Chisholm Trail (Duncan), 29th and Yale (Tulsa) and Perkins the remaining Sundays of the month. It was such a pleasure to stay in the home of the Lierlys in Tulsa and the Moores in Stillwater. We are blessed with such a wonderful Christian family. Shawnda had an opportunity to give a

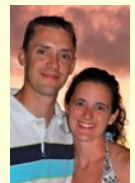
From the home-front...

We were expecting the worst of our travels with a 2 and 3 year old, but were pleasantly surprised with how well they did on the long flights. They have both adjusted fairly well to the States as well. Especially considering all of the changes they have been through in the past month...in 4 weeks we stayed in 4 different homes in 4 different cities, worshiped with 7 different congregations, and have met countless new people. That's a lot of change for an adult, and these little ones have handled it pretty well, I think.

We got to spend a week with my family in Colorado which included a trip to the zoo. We all enjoyed that. We have been in Oklahoma the rest of the month with Eric's family and my extended family. We've had lots of trips to play at the park and even a day at an amusement park. It's been 2 years since our last visit to the States, so it's been wonderful catching up with everyone, eating out and doing lots of shopping!

While in Tulsa, OK we had a ladies luncheon where I was able to share a presentation about the work in Vanuatu from a woman's point of view. I had such a great time doing that!

Love to you all...
Shawnda <>>



presentation on the work during a ladies' luncheon while we were in Tulsa, and I was asked to talk about our work to the local Kiwanis Club in Duncan.

We were greatly encouraged by each of our visits to supporting congregations, and are so grateful for the love and support we received. It's also been a blessing to spend time with my family and several life-long friends. One of the items on our agenda for our furlough time is to secure Titus' US citizenship, and we would especially appreciate your prayers in that regard!

We will leave you with some photos from the month...

