

Thomas Tribune

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Tim, Sherry, & Kyle Thomas

"More than we can ask or imagine" Ephesians 3:20

When the Apostle Paul wrote the epistle to the church at Ephesus, he could not have known about the Thomas family that would come along 2000 years later, but he did know that the same God would be able to meet their need as well.

The last nine months have been a lesson for us on the provision of God.

Last March when I told my employer that I would be leaving, we agreed to make my last day dependant on finding a replacement. I was agreeable to this, since I still had a house to sell. At the end of April they had found their replacement and my employment came to an end. But we still had not found a buyer for our house.

Three days later we had a solid offer. Two weeks after that we closed. Our real estate agent, Dixie Carlson of Coldwell Banker, graciously gave us her commission on the sale to help with our expenses.

Without a job and now without a house the only thing left to determine was where were we going. We knew God was sending us to Wisconsin, but where? We still did not have a place to move to. Once again God did what God does best, and just at the right time. Memorial Baptist Church in Verona, a Madison suburb, offered us the use of the second floor of their teen house to live in while we worked on raising our support.

We left Deltona on May 24. it was 90 degrees. On the way to Wisconsin we visited with our friends Paul & Louise Blue in Jacksonville, FL and with my brother Larry in Atlanta. We arrived in Verona on May 27th. It was 90 degrees.

Upon our arrival several men from the church came to help us unload the truck. As we entered our new home we found it full of food. After being here about a month we heard from the title company in Florida. They had made an error at the closing that needed correcting. Enclosed was a check for almost \$1000.

During the summer, East Troy Bible Church adopted us as their VBS missions pro-

ject. With their gift we were able to purchase a commercial grade color laser printer. The newsletter that you are now reading was produced by that printer. (see below)

We left Florida with 11% of our support. Today, our support is just shy of 60%.

On October 7th, at our annual conference, were introduced by regional missions director Mike Magnuson as the 'official' Awana missionaries for southern Wisconsin, albeit on a part-time basis. When we reach 70% we will be full-time.

These are but a few of the blessings we have seen God pour out upon us since we surrendered ourselves to full time ministry.

Over 600 attend annual Leadership conference

There were 610 in attendance at our annual Children's Ministry Conference which was held on October 7th at the Spring Creek Church in Pewaukee, WI. The theme of the conference was—shepherding.

Jerry Easley, Minister to Pre-school and Children at First Baptist Church of Ocala, FL was on hand to deliver the keynote message.

Over 85 workshops were presented on topics included; Awana Orientation,

regional events preparation, leadership, instilling a biblical worldview in our children, re-engaging the parents in the lives of their children and more.

See conference on page 2



Xerox Phaser 8550 Color Laser Printer
From East Troy Bible Church East Troy, WI

A New Home

A few weeks ago ground was broken on a house that will become our new home.

God has once again provided for us in miraculous way. With the current housing market in the condition it is, it is actually more affordable to build a new house than to buy an existing one.

Previously, we had walked away from this house because it was more than 20% more than we could afford. Several weeks later the developer, anxious to sell housing in the midst of a housing slowdown, contacted and offered to drop the price of the house by almost 25% moving it well within our reach. On top of that, the builder owns its own finance company and is offering us a below market interest rate.

It is a 3 bedroom house that includes what the builder calls a tech center on the second floor, which will be used as



750 Summerset Dr.
Johnson Creek, WI 53038

Kyle's (15) school room. There is a guest room, which we hope is used often. There is also an office on the first floor for us to work from.

The house is scheduled to be completed just before Christmas. Please pray with us that it is. What a wonderful day it would be spend Christmas day in a new home with our adult children from Florida and Texas with us.

The photo on the left is how the house looked on October 22nd.

The photo below is a rendering of a model and is close to what our house will look like when it is completed.



Our new address will be 750 Summerset Dr. Johnson Creek, WI 53038

Conference from page 1

We praise God for the following people for making the day a tremendous success:

- the 35 workshop leaders who taught
- for our volunteer ministry team
- Awana missionaries: Roy Koopman, northern Wisconsin, Rick Darling, northern Illinois
- Regional Missions Director Mike Magnuson, from Ohio

- The staff of Spring Creek Church

During the Sharing Awana portion of the program, more than \$2300 was given in support of our ministry and almost \$400 in monthly support pledges.



Plans are already underway to add a second conference in the Madison area for 2007.

This will make it more convenient to those in south central and south western Wisconsin to attend this annual event.

Prayer Requests

- That we would soon reach 70% of our support to allow us become full time
- That our house would be completed so we could move in before Christmas
- Safety as we travel almost 3000 miles/month visiting with churches
- Effectiveness with leaders and pastors as we share our burden to assist them with training those who minister to children
- Our daughter, PFC Wendy Soltis, who is being trained in radiology at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, TX. During this training she is apart from her husband, Ryan, who is studying engineering at the University of Central Florida
- Our son, Dave who is also studying engineering at the University of Central Florida
- Our son, Steve who is involved in children's ministry in Florida
- For new friends for Kyle after a second move this year.

Eight New Churches Start Awana

- Brillion Community Church, Brillion
- Hidden Valley Community Church, Dodgeville
- Fontana Bible Church, Fontana
- First Lutheran Church, Janesville
- Centro Bautista International, Kenosha
- Open Door Church, Sun Prairie
- S.H.A.L.O.M Ministries, Milwaukee
- New Testament Church, Milwaukee

Please pray these churches as they start new Awana programs in their churches.

This brings the number of churches in our territory to 124.

The Thomases are missionaries with Awana Clubs International, serving in southern Wisconsin.
Address: 204b S Franklin St. Verona, WI 53593
Sending Church: Deltona Alliance Church Deltona, Florida