

Cox Newsletter

May 2004

January brought some major changes to the Cox household. Part of Paul's degree requirements is an internship. Given Paul's desire to be well-equipped to counsel people, Dallas Theological Seminary agreed to allow Paul to use two counseling practicum courses for his internship. Paul is working for Christian Counseling Associates (CCA) as a practicum. People pay for Paul to counsel them. Which is a little scary at times. CCA pays its practicum students, which is a great blessing, as many practicum sites see practicums as free labor.



Paul and Donna

In order to facilitate working at CCA Paul left UPS. (Two part-time jobs, one wife, three kids, and full-time graduate school was more than the Cox family wanted to bite off.) The decision to leave UPS was a difficult decision. UPS had unbeatable benefits for the entire Cox family. However, the experience from CCA will be invaluable preparation for future ministry. Not to mention that seeing faces is a nice change from boxes.

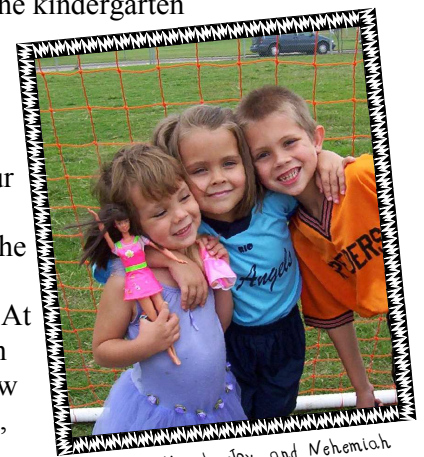
**Paul has left
UPS and is now
counseling!**

Spring has sprung for the Cox family. Donna taught two classes with the community college, her regular online and a new class that she helped develop the curriculum for Diverse Culture/Multilinguistic Education. Needless to say, she greatly enjoyed the topic. We had two children in soccer this season. Miriam is quite a good sport: cheering at her siblings' games and practices. Nehemiah loves soccer and did quite well while Micah Joy is rather happy that the season is ending so she can spend more time painting.

The summer promises to be a time of traveling balanced with swimming and down time. Unfortunately, the summer classes Donna was planning on teaching did not have enough students enrolled to make; Yikes! Please pray that we will not doubt God's provision and trust His providence and leading.

Next fall will bring about some changes in the kids' schooling. Nehemiah was invited to attend a Classical Model school, which has an emphasis on the arts and is part of the public school system. By his being accepted, Micah Joy and Miriam will also be able to attend the kindergarten and preschool programs. We are very fortunate to get into this highly sought-after school. God is good!

For the last couple of years we have been praying for God to either keep the Volkswagen running or provide another vehicle. God has answered our prayer. Our 86 Volkswagen needed some significant work (struts and the ever famous random engine dying while driving but running perfectly in the garage). Just before we were getting ready to do this work, Donna's great aunt decided that 78 was a good age to leave the driving to someone else. At the same time one of our supporters offered to help us with a car. Between the gracious supporter and kind aunt we are now the proud owners of a low mileage 1996 Buick LeSabre. Not quite the cute, zippy, little Volkswagen, but it runs well and comfortably seats the entire family.



Miriam, Micah Joy, and Nehemiah

The Coxes will be in the Albuquerque area August 1 through August 8.

We are hoping to see as many of our Albuquerque friends as we can that week.

Praise be to God that Paul has only a year and a half left before completing seminary (Lord willing). Given that the average time from inquiry to being on the field for missionaries is 18 months, it is time for Paul and Donna to start seriously praying and considering where they will be serving upon completion of seminary.

There are three possible organizations that we are communicating with (listed in alphabetical order):

1. Africa Inland Mission is the organization that Donna served with prior to our marriage. Paul would probably be involved in theological education and possibly some of their radio work. Donna would either teach education courses at a Bible college or return to teaching children.
2. Mercy Ships operates two (soon to be three) ships that contain hospitals. These ships go from port to port in poorer countries performing surgeries and sharing the gospel. If we serve, Donna would more than likely teach in the on board school. Paul might be involved in computer networking, communications, and/or pastoral care.
3. Trans World Radio is the organization that we served with three ago. Trans World Radio is interested in our return. There is a possibility that Paul would be involved with engineering, training and/or spiritual care. We are still discussing with them Donna's opportunities: could it possibly be something other than teaching? Doubtful☺

Pray for the Coxes and their future place of ministry

We would greatly covet your prayers, counsel and comments as we are seeking God's direction.

For those who would like the opportunity to give a tax-deductible gift to us during seminary, you may do so through New Covenant Church (NCC). Checks should be made out to NCC, with no mention of our name on the check. The check should then be placed in an envelope on which is written "for Paul and Donna Cox" and mailed to NCC. The address is: New Covenant Church; 7201 Paseo del Norte; Albuquerque, NM 87113. If you have any questions about this, please contact us.



Micah Joy
Easter egg hunt at the farm



Nehemiah and a Texas Blind snake
(Don't worry Grandma, it is not poisonous).



Miriam in her cheerleading outfit.
Yes we know it is really a tutu, but do not tell her.