



Douglas Dispatch



SPRING 2009

Romans 15:13 "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing that you may abound in hope, by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Furlough ministries are moving along. To this point we have spoken to 15 of our 30 supporting churches and 7 new churches since January. We have been privileged to share a message of hope as we report to the churches. We have been encouraged by what God is doing in some of our churches.

It has been good to renew friendships in churches that have supported us for many years. As we travel we also find new friends in many places. Our children have also been very good at making new friends in each church we visit as they try to "hang" with the youth groups.



Our travels have taken us from Florida to Michigan, Oregon, California, Idaho, and then back to California. See below for our upcoming itinerary. We spend a lot of time in our car! Since Amy now has her driver's permit,

we enjoy having three drivers to share the load. She hopes to get her full license before we return to Australia.

It was good to spend Christmas with Matt's family and Easter with Barb's family. Those are small pleasures that we as missionaries do tend to miss when we are on the field.

Amy and Luke are working hard at their schooling through Australian Distance Education. It is much like home-schooling, but without the responsibility of marking and grading their work. The internet is making this a lot easier (and cheaper!) this year.

On the whole God has blessed us with good offerings. We have also seen some churches quickly respond to the great need of increased monthly support. Our support level is at about 80% right now. The cost of living has increased (including the cost of ministry, insurance and housing), and the economic downturn has affected church giving. There are also one-time ministry needs that are sizeable. When we return we will be planting a new church, which involves a great amount of start-up costs. We know the Lord will supply in His time.

We know that God has called us and gifted us to minister as church planters in Australia.

The purpose of our ABWE team in Australia is to foster a church planting and missions movement. We look forward to returning to continue the ministry God has for us.

Your continued prayers mean so much to us. It has been amazing and encouraging to meet people on furlough who have been praying for us for years. Thank you!

In His service,

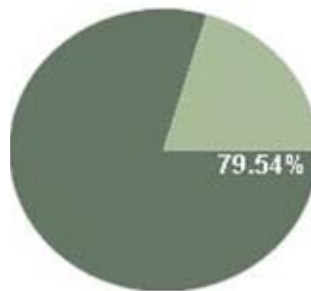
Matt, Barb, Amy & Luke Douglas



Please visit our web site for more up-to-date information on our ministries: www.abwedouglas.net

If you would like to receive these updates via email, please write us at: matt@abwedouglas.net

- * Apr 26 AM @ Lifegate Baptist Church, Portland OR
- * Apr 26 PM @ Community Baptist Church, Hillsboro OR
- * May 3 @ First Baptist Church, Tumwater WA
- * May 9 Barb @ Riverside Baptist Church, Albany OR
- * May 17 @ First Baptist Church, Wenatchee WA
- * May 24 @ Grace Baptist Church, Bellingham WA
- * May 31 @ Sterling Baptist Church, Sterling AK
- * June 7 @ Calvary Baptist Church, Kenai AK
- * June 10 @ Anchor Point Baptist, Anchor Point AK
- * June 14 @ Glaceirview Baptist Church, Homer AK
- * June 21 @ Berean Baptist Church, Kodiak AK
- * June 28 AM @ Pioneer Peak Baptist, Palmer AK
- * June 28 PM (open)
- * July 12 @ Mammoth Baptist Church, Mammoth MI
- * July 26 AM @ First Baptist Church, Polson MT
- * July 26 PM @ First Baptist Church, Big Fork MT
- * Aug 2 AM @ Emmanuel Baptist Church, Missoula MT
- * Aug 2 PM (open)
- * Aug 9 @ Campton Heights Baptist Church, Fortuna CA
- * Aug 16 Gold Beach OR (tentative)
- * Aug 23 @ Grace Baptist Church, Redding CA
- * Aug 30 @ Smith River Baptist Church, Smith River CA
- * Sept 6 @ First Baptist Church, Weaverville CA
- * Sept 13 @ First Baptist Church, Newport OR



Return to Australia??? (goal is Sept 22)

Support Level

Praise: Increase in support; Safe travels over many miles; Many wonderful opportunities to share our good God of hope.

Prayer: Continued safety as we drive many thousands of miles; 20% support still needed to return; One time gifts to cover ministry expenses upon our return to Australia