



CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND

Dear Friends of Siloam,

November 24, 2012

Merry Christmas! Wow, the year has flown! This has been a year of celebration – twenty years of ministry. Twenty years!! Each day of my life, I thank the Lord for the privilege of being part of His vision to provide homes for missionaries and ask Him to give us the strength and for opportunities to encourage those in ministry.

We have decorated the entire Siloam campus for Christmas. No country in the world celebrates Christmas like the US. When I talk to missionaries coming back from the mission field, one of the things they always say to me is that there is no place like “home” for Christmas. I guess that is the reason that I want Siloam to glitter and sparkle at Christmas. One year, while handing out Christmas presents, one missionary mom told me with tears in her eyes that the previous Christmas Eve, she and her husband were sitting around the tree late in the evening with nothing under the tree for their children. “It was a hard Christmas,” she said, “we had very little that year. This year at Siloam, we have more than we have ever had!” When I witness stories like this, it pulls my heart and pushes me to make Christmas extra special for our staff, their families and all of the missionary families living here at Siloam.

Yes, Christmas is a celebration of the Birth of Jesus. It is also a time to reflect on the goodness of God. The Lord has blessed us so much this year with wonderful friends and family. Rachel, our oldest daughter, has joined our ministry team and is teaching farming at “Camp Glory Farm,” an extension of Siloam Missionary Homes to reach our community for Christ. Also, we completed the Bill & Sandra Rice Missionary Home in July, home #14! Phase I of Camp Glory Farm is completed and the exercise room was done, too.

As I look forward to Christmas, I can’t help but think of Proverbs 16:3 “Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.” This verse is God at work in my heart – to provide a home for missionaries for a lifetime. In other words, in all stages of life – from the time of their calling until they go home to be with the Lord. Our missionaries should not have to worry about where they will live. It’s the least I can do for families that say, “Here am I, Lord, send me.”

In closing, I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a blessed and prosperous New Year. God has blessed all of us to bless others. We are excited about 2013 and all the things God will accomplish. On behalf of our staff, all of the missionary families and the Board of Directors, we would like to say “thank you.” It is because of you that we all have a place to call home this Christmas.

With grateful hearts,
Larry George

*This year, we are planning a **Christmas Open House** the weekend of **November 30 & December 1**. You can come and bring the whole family. Take a trolley ride, drink a cup of hot chocolate and ride around the campus and over to Camp Glory Farm. We will have large Christmas Cards on display in front of many of the houses. You can come into the Family Center and buy crafts made by the children and parents that live here.*

Many of you have asked about **Mike’s Potato Soup**. We will have that available as well as homemade bread, made by one of our own missionaries. We will also be selling Christmas trees and wreaths. All of the proceeds will go into helping make Siloam a wonderful place for the missionaries to call home.