

¿Qué pasa con los Spurlings en Paraguay?

September 2005

We always thank God for all of you and pray for you constantly. As we pray to our God and Father about you, we think of your faithful work, your loving deeds, and the enduring hope you have because of our Lord Jesus Christ.

—1st Thessalonians 1:2-3

Saludos (Greetings),

Llegamos en Costa Rica de Agosto el 18 (We arrived in Costa Rica on August 18th). We will be here for the next year studying Spanish as we prepare for our ministry in Paraguay. We are so thankful that you are a part of our ministry through your prayers, your faithfulness, your kindness to us, and your constant encouragement. We couldn't be more blessed—thank you.

When we arrived we stayed with the “Big Brother” and “Big Sister” our school assigned to us. Our “Big Siblings” were terrific as they taught us the basics for our survival here in a strange land. They explained the transportation system (taxis and buses). They took us to the major shopping plazas. They even helped us navigate the O.I.J. (Costa Rican F.B.I.) when Karen's wallet was lost/stolen. Steve and Lori have been a reminder that God continues to bless us with His care. On the 28th we moved out of our “Big Siblings” place into our own apartment and we're looking forward to beginning classes on the 31st. **Pray for the strength of mind that will enable our learning Spanish.**

As I mentioned earlier, Karen lost (or had stolen) her wallet with all of her identification in it on our second or third day here. Our bank red-flagged her credit card so only a very small amount of money was lost. However, Karen's permanent residence card was lost. In order to replace her green card we will have to pay approximately \$400. We are praising God that our attitudes are good and our sense of God's peace is intact. **Please pray that God would work**

J pictured with his “big brother and sister,” Steve and Lori Torrison. The Torrisons are being sent to Panama with the Free Will Baptist mission board.



Hope Community Bible Church (Springhill, Florida) held a special commissioning service for Karen and J prior to their leaving for Costa Rica.

Pictured from left to right: Rev. David Pletincks, Karen Johnson, Karen Spurling, J Spurling, Jack Spiegel and (Uncle) Rexford Boda.

the miraculous and enable us to retrieve the green card before coming home next year.

We were joined by our fellow teammates (Forest, Sarah, and Caleb Schell and Melanie Bagamary) this past week. Forest and Sarah will be here with us the entire year prior to going to Paraguay. And Melanie will be here for eight months as she is already quite proficient in the language. We've all already depended on Melanie quite a bit as our translator aficionada. **Pray for our teammates as they learn Spanish and as we build strong relationships with one another.**

We are also grateful that the majority of our outfit



We praise the Lord that we were able to spend the month of July in Trinidad visiting our family prior to leaving for four years. Pictured from Left to right: **Grandpa Andrew Massy, Jeffrey Andrew, and Karen.**

We thank you for being part of our team. We're praying for you.

¡Dios le bendiga! (God bless you!)

J, Karen and Jeffrey Spurling
www.thespurlings.com

** Anyone wanting to give a tax deductible gift to the Spurling's outfit or vehicle fund can do so by mailing a check made out to The Christian and Missionary Alliance (with the words written in the memo "Spurling's Vehicle fund" or Spurling's Outfit fund") to:*

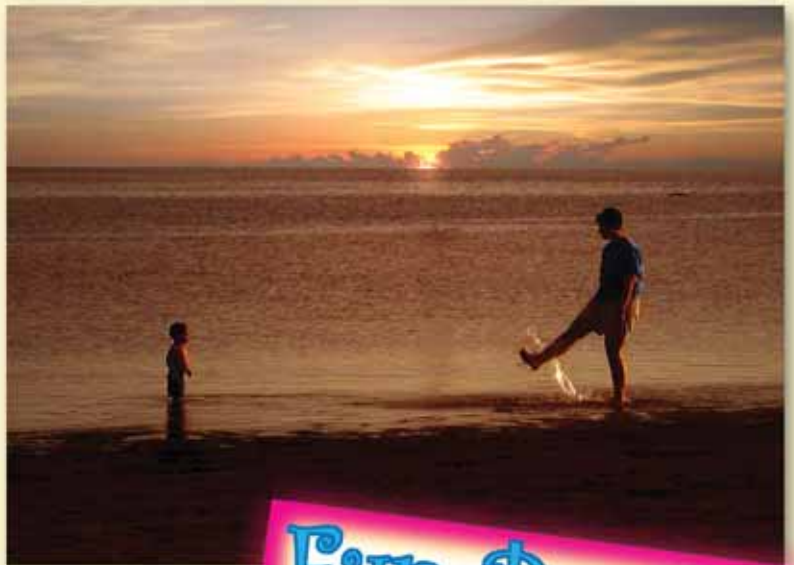
*The Christian and Missionary Alliance
Attn: J and Karen Spurling's Outfit Fund
P.O. Box 35000
Colorado Springs, CO 80935-3500*

funds have been raised—Praise the LORD! We are grateful that God used so many people to raise these funds that will enable us to furnish our home in Paraguay with the necessities (i.e. beds, refrigerator, stove, furnishings etc.). We still need to raise almost \$25,000 for a vehicle. The more proficient we become in cross-cultural ministry the more we will be used. The more we are used the more we will have to travel. **Pray that God will raise up individuals who will give to our vehicle fund.***

If you are a Christian and Missionary Alliance (C&MA) supporter we would like to remind you that any gifts given to our outfit or to our vehicle fund should not be made in place of your giving to the Great Commission Fund (GCF). Unlike other organizations, The C&MA does not require its missionaries to raise their own salaries. Instead, missionaries are financed through what we call the GCF. Christian & Missionary Alliance church members and friends give to this fund regularly. We and our fellow C&MA missionaries the world over depend upon your giving to fund our ministries. **Please pray that Great Commission giving would increase in order that the C&MA's vision for sharing Christ with everyone the world over would be realized.**

We made our final good-byes to the Florida family prior to leaving for Costa Rica.

Pictured: **Jeffrey and Aunt Barbi (Bubba).**



Pray for us...

1. Pray for our Spanish learning
2. Pray about Karen's lost green card
3. Pray for our teammates: Forest, Sarah, Caleb, and Melanie
4. Pray for the raising of funds for our vehicle
5. Pray for Great Commission giving

Fun Box

Be the first to identify the Costa Rican name of this item and win a prize.



e-mail your answer to:
TheSpurlings@yahoo.com