

# Millers' Memo

December 2017

Since 1969



This year has flown by! We planned our travels for BLF from mid-August to mid-November.

But in early September when we were in Missouri,

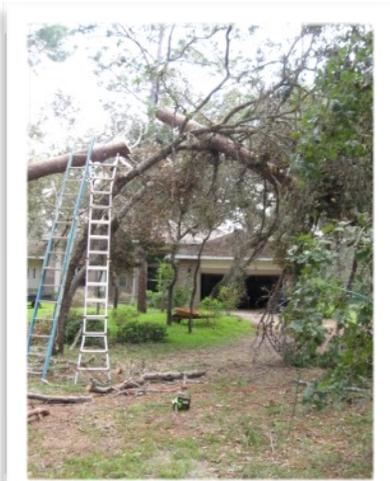
Hurricane Irma hit Florida. Russ' brother Ray next door told us that one big pine tree had come down on our house, and that on our two properties together we had lost 70 trees. We continued traveling another week, then headed for home.

Ray had cleared our driveway, so we could get to the house. The front and back yards were full of big branches. Some trees were topped, others were down (mostly pines); thankfully, many oaks are still doing well. Russ, Ray, and our friend Paul worked a whole day to remove the tree on the house, and we are thankful that there was no damage to the house! God is so good!

The Lord gave us many wonderful opportunities to tell people about BLF as we traveled. We also saw many relatives, supporters and friends, as well as meeting new people. We ended our travels at the Global Missions Health Conference in Louisville, KY in mid-November. While there, we talked with many people who work in French-speaking places. Several of them work with children and were interested in our Sunday School materials.

Besides visiting booths and promoting BLF, we talked with several people who work with Samaritan's Purse and know Jon. SP brought a mobile hospital

which they set up just outside the booth area. We were able to tour it and talk with the staff.



As we traveled this fall, we told about the need to reprint the Sunday School materials. Over half of the funds needed for the reprint have come in, thanks to all who have given. But the floor in parts of the warehouse in France needs to be upgraded with thicker concrete so that it'll be stronger to hold heavy pallets of books. The Director of BLF France has asked us to bring a team in April 2018 to do this project. While speaking in two churches in the Tulsa area, we were thrilled to have several men who are construction workers volunteer to help us! Please pray that timing of the trip, the workers, and the funding will come together for this project.

Ron called saying that their household goods from Uganda had finally arrived at their home in Alexandria, VA. Before leaving Africa, he had managed to get the beautiful buffet that Russ had made from mahogany while we lived in Dungu, Congo, 41 years ago. It was now at their home in VA and we could come for it. So we drove up with a trailer, enjoyed Thanksgiving with Ron's family, and brought back the buffet (see picture)!



## Ron & Shannon

In August, Ron, Shannon and the girls moved to Alexandria, VA. Ron has settled into his job as the Director of Somalia Policy for the Department of Defense. He's traveled to Somalia several times since assuming this title. Shannon is currently setting up her private practice. Kira and Laina love their school, have learned to swim in the last month and think camping is the "best thing ever!"



## Scott & Susan

Downings have spent the past two months in the capital where Scott is Acting Director of TEAM in Chad. Suze continues to teach the children. Besides studying, the kids were also paper beading and making beautiful jewelry to sell at TEAM's conference (end of November). Now the family is back where they normally live until January

Both Suze and Scott are focusing on relationships while there, Scott through well-drilling and visiting with friends in town. Suze continues chronological Bible storytelling and discipleship with the Sally/Ally household.

## Jon & Heather

Jon, Heather and family have been in Liberia for 7 months now. Jon has recently started building a 22 bed Surgical Ward and a completely new Septic/Leach field system for the hospital. Jebel has enjoyed kindergarten and will begin 1st grade in January. Jazira has become very social and her parents hardly know what to do with such an extravert. Judah has become mobile on the floor, yet is normally a quiet and patient baby who loves to laugh. Heather does a great job keeping the family and household running while entertaining quite a few visitors.



We talk about it at Thanksgiving and Christmas, but we've been thanking the Lord for His many blessings to us throughout the year. Besides sharing His love and presence with us, he has given us a wonderful family and all of you who pray for us and support us. Thank you so much. Let us rejoice as we celebrate Jesus' coming to earth. He came to take the punishment for our sins and offer us eternal life with Him. Praise Him!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2018

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