

◊ The “Scoop” on the Scotts ◊

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Serving with Wycliffe Bible Translators

Good News!

What's Up?

As you may recall from our February newsletter, we have been working full-time since November 2005 on seeking additional financial partners in our ministry. Thank you for praying for us! We had a goal to be back to work in the office by May 1, but for the last few months, we haven't made enough progress in reaching our financial goal. By the end of March we were still over \$1,100 per month short of what we would need to live here in Orlando, and we questioned whether the Lord wanted us to continue in the ministry or to leave Wycliffe for a secular job. It has been a long season of searching our hearts and asking God to reveal to us His plans for our family.

A Renewed Vision

Last month, a new opportunity arose and we began to investigate the possibility of relocating to North Carolina to serve at a different Wycliffe office. As we looked into this option, the Lord began to confirm that this was, in fact, the direction that He wanted us to follow! Our plan is to move this summer to North Carolina, in hopes of being there by August so that our children can start school there in the fall. Krista and I are *EXCITED* to announce this, and we have a renewed vision and commitment to serve the Lord with our skills!

“Our plan is to move this summer to North Carolina...”

What's in North Carolina?

Wycliffe has three major US centers of operations:

- ⇒ The **Wycliffe** USA headquarters, where we are currently working in Orlando, manages the finances, personnel, communications, prayer and recruiting efforts for Wycliffe.
- ⇒ The **SIL** headquarters in Dallas, Texas, focuses on the coordination of worldwide translation and linguistic efforts, including training for translators and linguists.
- ⇒ The **JAARS** headquarters near Charlotte, North Carolina, provides many types of technical services for Wycliffe around the world. This is where we will be serving!

Why JAARS?

There are four major factors which led to our decision to relocate to North Carolina.

1. **Financial** – For our family, the cost of living in the rural part of North Carolina where we will be located will be significantly lower than in urban Orlando. This move will bring us within about five hundred dollars of our full monthly financial needs!
2. **Family** – Those of you who knew where Krista and I grew up and lived in Michigan will understand that we are “country people.” We have survived here in Orlando for six years, but we are not “city folks”! The Lord put us here, and we have no regrets about our time here in Orlando. We know that moving to a rural area will be an adjustment, but it's time to leave the city for the sake of our kids. They actually look forward to attending a smaller rural school and to making new friends with other kids near JAARS. We all have a peace about this transition, and we know it comes from the Lord!
3. **Ministry** – One might not think of missionaries as being career-minded, but I am. My goal is not to climb the corporate ladder, but to be placed by the Lord wherever my abilities can make the biggest impact for the work of Bible translation. I have enjoyed the work in Orlando, and I have found it challenging and fulfilling. Still, I long to use my skills to more directly support the computer needs at our field offices in other countries. With this move, I will be helping to provide that technical field support.
4. **A Critical Need** – Due to an upcoming reorganization in the IT department at JAARS, a key position for the IT Operations Manager has surfaced. I am well qualified for this job, with just the right mix of technical background and management experience. The reorganization is expected to take place around the time that I will begin work at JAARS this fall.

JAARS is part of the Wycliffe family of organizations, and while working there we are still Wycliffe missionaries. There will be NO changes in the way financial gifts are sent in, and our current email addresses will still work.

What will Hank do at JAARS?

As IT Operations Manager, I will be managing the team of people who support the international email systems, the JAARS network, and the worldwide Wycliffe network. Working alongside the international computer help desk, this team provides advanced computer support for Wycliffe personnel at JAARS and around the world. A computer support person at a field office who runs into difficult questions turns to JAARS for answers. In addition, I will be part of a team of network and communications experts, providing solutions to our field offices around the world, such as I did in Cameroon, Africa in 2004. From time to time, I will have the opportunity to travel to other countries to implement new technology.

What about the Orlando office?

While we feel sad about leaving Orlando, we are happy to see how the Lord is enabling the remaining IT staff to accomplish the work! The coworker whom I put in charge to manage the Tech Services team in Orlando is doing a great job. He is an excellent manager, and while the whole team is overwhelmed with the amount of work, there will be some adjustments made over the summer to help backfill my vacancy and to achieve the needed staffing. I recall that when I arrived in Orlando, there were only four staff to support the network and email systems, and now there are eight people.

Where is JAARS?

JAARS is near the border between North and South Carolina, outside of a small town named Waxhaw. This is about 25 miles south of downtown Charlotte, NC.



What are our plans for the summer?

As Krista and I plan for this move, we realize that there are things that we need to start doing right away!

- ✓ We are completing “fix-up” projects to put our Orlando home on the market by mid-May. This includes landscaping, touch-up painting and lots of sorting.
- ✓ We have begun to pack certain things that will not be needed until after we have moved. This helps empty our home a bit so that it looks orderly for showings.
- ✓ We will be driving to Michigan two times during the summer – in June and in July – to visit with current and potential new financial partners. We are praying that this will help reduce our remaining \$500 per month shortfall. Hank cannot begin his new job at JAARS until our income reaches the full amount needed.
- ✓ During the return trip, we will be stopping in North Carolina to begin preparations on that end for our move. We are planning to rent an apartment or a house there to move into this fall. This will give us more time for house hunting and to get to know the area before we purchase a home.
- ✓ Once we have a sale date for our house in Orlando, we will complete our packing and coordinate with JAARS trucking to pick up our household and move it to North Carolina. Somewhere in this process we will complete the closing on our Orlando home.

These details remind us of Proverbs 16:9, which says, “*We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps.*” Certainly the timing of all this is in His hands, and it looks like another busy summer!

Prayer Requests

Please be praying that the Lord would put us in touch with those who want to join our financial team and help cover the remaining \$500 of our monthly needs. Pray that our Orlando home would sell quickly and at a good price. Also please pray for Nick and Amanda as they wrap up school and friendships here in Orlando. Ask the Lord to give us good health and safe travels this summer.

Praise and Thanksgiving

We praise the Lord for His direction in our lives, and for making it possible for us to continue serving Him in this way. We are thankful that He is answering our prayers, and working out the details in such a positive way. Finally, we are grateful for all of *you* who are praying for us and giving to help make our ministry possible!

In His Service,

Hank & Krista

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