trekkin times

"Look! The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will name him Emmanuel," which means "God with us." Matthew 1:23



Folks with Us – For almost a year now, I've been meeting with our national colleagues online, because we live in different states of this country. I coach them, and help them to share Bible stories with people around them. In April, they came to our home, so that we could do some training, make plans for our project, and also get to know each other better. It was productive and fun! In the evenings, we went on bike rides, played board games, and enjoyed delicious meals. We got so much more done and enjoyed it more when we were together.

Please continue pray for our national colleagues. They are still getting their salaries through some "gap" funding, but they're very eager to start leading Bible storying workshops, and we're *still* waiting to hear that the project funds have been approved. It's been almost a year that we've been waiting. In the meantime, we are all working hard to improve our skills in Bible storytelling, story crafting and consultant checking.



God with Us - Dear Friends, after pandemic lockdowns, we all rediscovered the joy of meeting face to face. When Jesus came to live as a man, He was doing something similar – meeting humans face to face. God with us. What an awesome thing to be able to look at, and talk with, the Creator of all things...in person! Someday we will have that joy – "For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face" – 1 Corinthians 13:12 (KJV).

I'm reminded of this because lately, we've gotten to meet people in person, whom we normally only see online. While video chats are a blessing and allow us to stay connected to many people, face to face meetings are **so** much more enjoyable. In this issue, I'll be sharing about some of those wonderful in-person connections we've enjoyed.

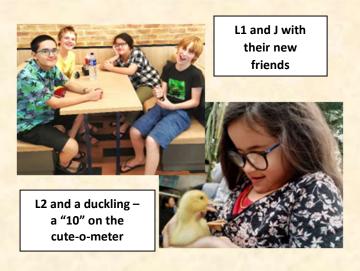
Our colleagues who came to our home



<u>Us with Folks</u> – In early May, I went from our home to a place famous for its tea (send me your guesses!), so that I could lead a Bible story-based trauma healing workshop. Since it is a cool, hilly place, and our whole family needed a weekend away, I asked my family to join me at the end of the workshop. We had a wonderful time wearing coats and seeing different, beautiful scenery. We also got to visit some other national and foreign colleagues, because they have an office near the workshop place. We had met some of them at our retreat last November, but for others it was our first meeting. One family in particular were new to us, and they have kids about the same age as ours. We decided to spend that weekend mostly together, hoping to build new friendships, especially for the kids. We wondered – would the kids like each other? They did! They all seemed to enjoy every moment together, and that made it extra fun for us parents too.

Please don't share this newsletter without asking us first – thanks!

Us with MY Folks! – Last Christmas, we announced to my parents that we would be coming to visit them in America this summer, sponsored by my siblings. They were surprised and happy – unexpected time with the grandkids! Our trip is less than a month away now. Please pray for safe travel, and good times with family. We will not be traveling from the Twin Cities area of Minnesota, but if you're in the area and want to get together, let us know!



The front top picture and here, we are on a hilltop that has a perfect view of the Himalayan mountains. Behind

The T Family

For information on how to contact us, please ask the VCC office.



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us are viewing stands. Alas, it was a bit foggy on the day we went there!





Here is some recent progress on our house. The floor is down and the pillars are made. Getting ready to pour the roof. It has to be cement and bricks here – wood rots too quickly.

<u>Us with Us!</u> – As a homeschooling family, and with my mostly remote work, we spend a lot of time together. During the work week, we are often all sharing the same space – E's and my bedroom! It is big enough for my office, and for E and the kids to do school stuff. And because it has an air conditioner, we often eat our meals there too (we've been using AC since March!). Often E cooks in the kitchen, I have to go to one of the kids' bedrooms for online meetings, and L2 goes downstairs to play with her cousins. Otherwise, we, the T family, see a lot of each other. It's a blessing we probably don't fully appreciate! Please pray that we would keep finding ways to make our <u>quantity</u> time <u>quality</u> time. It won't be long before our kids start leaving the nest...gulp!

<u>You with us</u> – Thank you for all the ways you partner with us: your prayers, notes and gifts to our Wycliffe ministry. We are doing well in our transition to our new country, state and city, after being here for almost a year. Your prayers and God's grace have helped <u>a lot</u>.

Blessings in Christ,

S, E, L1, J, and L2

