

Touching Widows in Europe

By Beth Cooley

What makes a house a home? Is it size, cleanliness, decorations, comfort? According to Lumtria and her two children, the answer is, “No.” They have none of these things but they have a home. Their house consists of two rooms. Their bathroom is an outhouse with no running water or electricity. Their house is heated with a wood stove which is also their means of cooking food. In her living room, dimly lit by the sunshine peeking through the only window, Lumtria has a few plants and artificial flowers, bringing a little splash of color to the off-white walls and brown carpet and couch. The pictures on her walls are of her sister, who was killed fighting during the war, and her husband, who was taken captive during the war and has not been seen since. Lumtria and her children live off welfare which gives them about \$70.00 a month. She has been trying to get a job, but the culture does not look very highly upon widows. Lumtria, her son (4th grade), and daughter (1st grade) have learned to make due with what they have and hold their family together with love and determination. They find ways to bring laughter and joy into their home. Her brother has graciously stepped in and has been a help to her in keeping up her house and in raising her children. Their god is Allah who promises them nothing. This precious family needs to know the true God and Jesus Christ. Will you pray for this family? For their salvation, physical strength and emotional healing.

For protection, the name has been changed and the country is not mentioned. Please do not put this story on the internet. If you would like more information about the ministry we have with widows and orphans in Central Europe, please email me at bethrcooley@yahoo.com.

Send me your news or a story of God's Care for you.

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Sisters to Pray For

Widows of OARBC Pastors

Dorothy Barkley
Zanesville, OH

Pearl Beckley
Warren, OH

Merle Brock
Hilliard, OH

Virginia Fields
Carmel, NY

Yvonne Garlich
North Lima, OH

Bonnie Gohn
Hubbard, OH

Alma Hein
Cedarville, OH

Louise Henry
Stow, OH

Margaret Howell
Bellefontaine, OH

Ethel Jeremiah
Sebring, OH

Ann Lewis
Willoughby, OH

LeMoyné Loomis
Niles, OH

Joan Markell
Nova, OH

Barbara McIntosh
Xenia, OH

Peggy Miller
Dayton, OH

Pearl Morris
Indianapolis, IN

Betty Myers
Columbus, OH

Nancy Payton
Lakewood, OH

Theona Smelser
Sebring, FL

Mabel Strong
Sebring, FL

Mary Tipton
Homeworth, OH

Marilyn Vaughan
Columbus, OH

Donna Vermilyea
Toledo, OH

Kitty Vine
Cedarville, OH

Ellen Werbeach
Akron, OH

Clara Wolford
Warren, OH

Lucy Wright
Medina, OH

Joyce Yost
Mill Hall, PA

Widows In Touch

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WIT

December, 2006

Merry Christmas!

With the closing of 2006, Dave and I remind ourselves just **how good God is** and has been to us – and **you** are part of that goodness. He has been faithful to His Word and kind in His dealings – and **you** are part of that kindness. He has allowed us to minister to a fellowship that you have given so much of your own self to in the past. He has kept us in safety on the roads and in the air. For all this and more we give Him grateful praise! J

We thank the Lord for the privilege of **ministry in the OARBC** – sharing in ordinations, anniversaries, Bible Conferences, retreats, Area fellowships, and Sunday services. We represented the OARBC from Reno, Nevada, furthest point west, speaking to the combined conferences for the California and Northwest Regular Baptist Churches, – to Ocean City, NJ, furthest point east, helping in a pastoral search process, -- from South Pointe, Ohio, furthest point south, speaking at Tri-State Bible College graduation, -- to Grand Rapids, Michigan, furthest point north, preaching at our son's church over Labor Day.

We also thank the Lord for **family**. In some ways 2006 is “**the year of the grandchild**,” since we sought intentionally to spend time with all eight of them (their parents also sneaked in there somehow, too). We were a week with Ben and his parents, Ed and Janice Supplee, at Edisto Island, South Carolina, and another week near Traverse City with Matthew and Lia Brugel, their parents, Steve and Cheryl, also joining us – and Noah and Molly Warren, with parents, Mark and Darcie. We then spent a week and one half traveling with Sydney and Alec Warren from Denver, Colorado to Westboro, Wisconsin (Camp Forest Springs), and back. Back home in Denver with their parents, David and Michelle, we enjoyed seeing some of their inner city ministry in action and taking Alec and younger brother, William, to the top of Mount Evans 14,200 feet above sea level in the Colorado Rockies. Lots of miles, lots of fun, lots of good memories made!

2007 promises to be a bit different – maybe more than a bit. The Council of 12 of the OARBC is granting us a **sabbatical** for January through March. As of this writing our plans are not quite complete, but we will follow the Council's one “requirement” – come back refreshed. Very generous of them! We plan to avoid traveling, except for a trip to our kids, and do some reading and writing. So we will be off the scene for three months.

Trust you enjoy the family pictures inside

Love, Dave and Pat

Fun With the Grandkids!

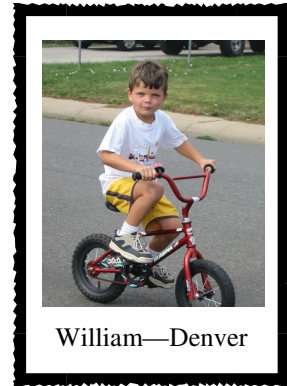
He came to become like us
So that we would become like Him.
May we represent Him well!

God's Cord of Faithfulness

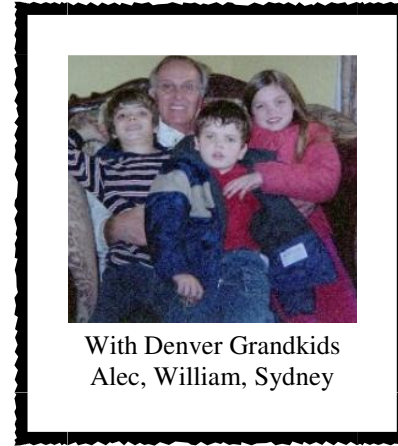
At our Fall OWMU Retreat, Sue Miller spoke on the "Cord of God's Faithfulness." Her illustration of Rahab and God's blessing on her generations because she had chosen to trust the Faithful God of Israel reminded me of my Grandma. My Grandma faithfully served the Lord by loving people and drawing them to church and to Jesus by her personal care for them. I knew she also prayed faithfully for all of us in her family.



Sorry!
With the Grand Rapids Cousins



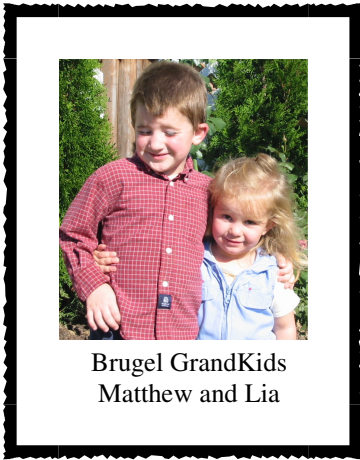
William—Denver



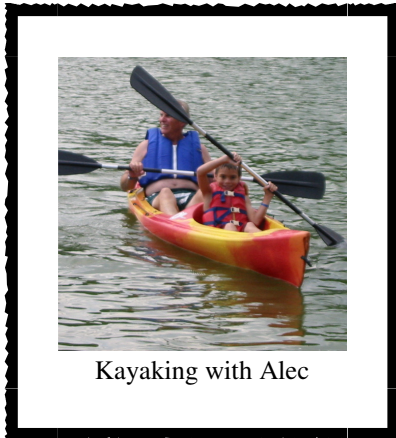
With Denver Grandkids
Alec, William, Sydney



Sydney, left, giving out Bibles



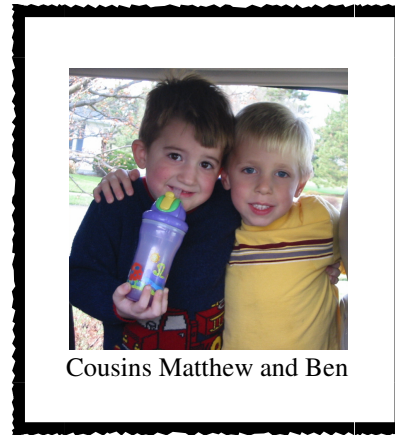
Brugel GrandKids
Matthew and Lia



Kayaking with Alec



Amazing Cabella's!



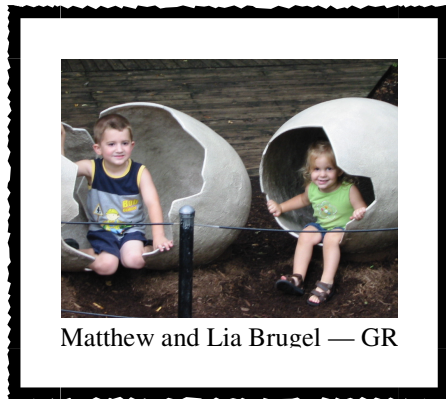
Cousins Matthew and Ben



Biking with Mark's kids
Molly and Noah



Pat turns 65 —
needs Ben's help



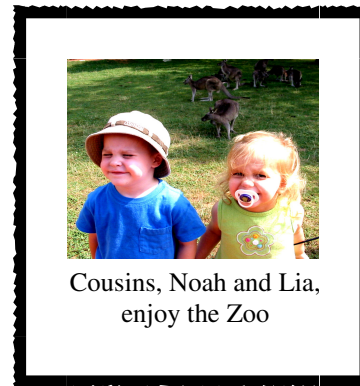
Matthew and Lia Brugel — GR



Happy 1st Birthday, Molly!



Go for it! Benjamin!
Ben Supplee – right



Cousins, Noah and Lia,
enjoy the Zoo

When I remembered my Grandma's faithfulness, I also remembered my oldest granddaughter, Sydney, aged 10, who had recently returned from a mission trip to Guatemala with her other "Grandma." Yes, because of a faithful Grandma, I was seeing the blessing of the Lord in the lives of my grandchildren. And I was a grateful Grandma in that sweet link. Keep praying for your grandchildren. Your prayers may reap blessings for many generations until Jesus comes! ☞