

August 2008

Dear Friends,

Thank you again for your prayers and financial support. It's hard to believe the summer is two thirds gone already. We've had 22 consecutive days of sunshine here in the Northwest – which beats 22 consecutive days of rain, for sure!

We start off the month with a bit of travel – mainly on account of a 20 inch long, 8 pound one ounce new arrival in Arkansas. Elijah Hale Bondiotti finally made his appearance on July 21st. Mom (Rachel), Dad (Justin), baby, and Grandma are all doing well. Ann flew to Arkansas on July 9th on the doctor's erroneous prediction that "Peanut" (as he was previously affectionately called) would be here before the 15th! Dave and Caleb are happy to be retrieving her and converting our "bachelor pad" back into a home once again! Enough of this "Mr. Mom" stuff already!



On the same day as our little bundle of joy arrived, we also lost a dear friend and mentor from 20 years ago. Pastor Ray Miller of Conway, Arkansas, was called Home after six-bypass heart surgery that seemed to be successful. What an ironic reminder of things temporal and things eternal, and the preciousness of life and the human soul. Though Pastor may not have thought he was "finished" with whatever God had for him to do, I'm confident that he finished well. May that be said of us all.