

# Maiorano Minutes



1st Quarter  
2009

## Coming East

Jim and I will be coming east with five of our students in April. We will be leaving the NM area bound for Philadelphia on April 14 and returning on April 25. We will be in the PA area at the beginning of our trip and ending our time in the Washington DC area. All the students are very excited as the time quickly approaches.

To give you an idea of the places we will be visiting while we are in the area, we have listed our itinerary. We are trying to get a lot in during our brief stay, making their trip as memorable as possible.

Wednesday - Hershey and Snyder's Pretzels

Thursday - Philadelphia

Friday - Lancaster

Saturday - Valley Forge

Sunday - Washington's Crossing

Monday - Gettysburg

Tuesday - Corson Inlet and Cape May Ferry

Wed/Thurs - Monuments, Memorials, and Museums in DC

Friday - Pentagon, Arlington, Ft. McHenry

Saturday - flying back to New Mexico

## Open House

While we are in the area, we want to get a chance to see as many of you as possible and introduce you to the students. In order to accomplish that, we are planning on holding an open house on Monday evening, April 20, from 6:30-8:30 PM. This will be held at the home of Dick and Janice Feldkamp at 833 Rising Sun Road in Telford. Since their drive is shared by several others, we will tie balloons to the mailboxes at the end of their drive and the end of their driveway. For further directions you can call the Feldkamps at 215-721-0591.

From 7:15-7:45, we will be showing a

DVD put together by the students, followed by the students sharing a little about their life out here, and then a time for questions and answers.

We hope to see many of you there. We look forward to seeing friends and family, catching up with events in your lives, sharing what God has been doing here, and showing off some very special teens, who have this unique opportunity.

## More About the Students

In the last letter, I introduced you to the six older students at the ministry. Now I will give you some information about the younger ones, as well as a new student.

The younger students are spread throughout the grades so I will start with the youngest and work my way up. The youngest student we have this year is Storme, our granddaughter. She is 6 years old and is currently finishing up her 1<sup>st</sup> grade work and moving into 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. She reads like the wind and soaks up math skills like a sponge. She excels in everything she does.

Sam is the next oldest and he is currently in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. He is our grandson and has just turned eight. He also reads extremely well, and tests at a 6<sup>th</sup> grade level. Both Sam and Storme have learned to read and do math through the Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes I learned several years ago when I went to California. Not only do the programs help students in need, but they are an excellent way to teach from the beginning.

Rosa is in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and she is new this year. She had attended several schools over the last couple of years before she finally came to us. She has had a little difficulty catching on to the way we do things but this last half of the year has gone much easier for her.

Tia is in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, and she is also new. When she came to us, there were concerns on everyone's part for how this would work. She

had not been pushed; she doesn't take responsibility well; and she tends to just float along. Students here can't float. She has been pushed, and it has made her somewhat uncomfortable at times. However, we have seen great improvement in her class work and her ability to get things done. Now she needs to learn to be more focused on her tasks and work with greater speed. She has come far, but we still have work to do. I am convinced that she has great potential.

TJ just came to us. We have known TJ 's family since we moved out here. He is one of six children, and Mom was home-schooling all of them. TJ was not motivated to do his work and was having difficulties keeping up, so they thought a change of pace might do the trick. He joined our class several weeks ago and has been doing very well.

Now you have been introduced to all of the students. We would appreciate your keeping all of these students in your prayers. We can give them God's Word and try to prepare them for whatever lies before them in life, but they are living in a very tough world where peer pressure and the trinkets of the world all pull for their attention. They need to learn to stand against the tide and realize that Satan's pull is very strong.

## New Opportunities

We began the study on the book of James in January. It is a fabulous study on a book that has so many practical lessons for us all. It is still a little disappointing that so few people want to study God's Word. We only had one person show up for Marriage Without Regrets, so that class was cancelled. We are working with one couple that needs some instruction and encouragement in their marriage and family relationship, and another couple that wants to work through this study as pre-marital counseling. We pray that we can impart God's Word to these four people and that they will allow God to work in their lives through this study.

We had a woman come and ask for help because she has problems reading. I will be working with her and her family to help her

through the LiPS program and see if we can't bring her reading level up past 5<sup>th</sup> grade. This program is just as effective for adults as for children.

## God's Answers To Prayer

1. Plans continue to go well as we prepare for our trip to PA in April. Just about everything is taken care of except for a place to stay in the Washington DC area.
2. We are down to the last eight weeks of the 2008/2009 educational year. It is hard to believe that the year is almost over. It has been a good year. There are three students preparing to take their college entrance tests. We went over both the SAT and the ACT tests. They have done well on both. Not only have they tested high enough to get them into the college of their choice, but two out of three scored high enough on the practice tests to possibly receive academic scholarships.
3. After several years, Jimmy's case was finally heard in court in the custody issue of Sam and Storme. Jimmy has won physical custody of Sam and Storme, and Jill will have visitation rights. Praise the Lord it is finally over.

## Please Pray for the Following . . .

1. A place to stay in the DC area in April.
2. A safe trip, a good visit, and an educational time as we head to PA for two weeks in April.
3. We are beginning to entertain new students for next year. We need wisdom as to which students will be the best fit.
4. Mike, Kendall, and Tracey as they prepare to take their college entrance tests over the next couple of months.

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