

Dear Family and friends,

I hope your 2008 has been a happy and this letter finds you well. This year has been a busy one and we are very appreciative of your prayers and support.

### Training

Ben is now a fully qualified Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic. He had anticipated taking the final part of this license in March, but due to a reinterpretation of the rules by the FAA he had to wait an additional six months. While waiting for permission to take the exam he continued working full-time in the maintenance shop. Also flying the fixed (and broken!) helicopters to ensure properly repaired before putting them back on the flight line for students to use.

We are very close to the end of training now with only the Certified Flight Instructor and Certified Flight Instructor Instrument licenses left to attain. However, there is still lots of practical experience to gain. The plan now is that once he has finished the Instructor licenses to find a job teaching student pilots. Please pray for us in this area as it may mean uprooting from Titusville, FL and going wherever he is able to find an instructing position.

### Visitors

Ben's Dad, John, and brother, Thomas, came to visit in late May. They brought lots of English chocolates and set up camp in our second bedroom for about two weeks. We barbecued, picnicked, played mini golf and – in true American fashion - even shot a gun! It was great fun and much to short.

November saw our second set visitors from the UK. Friends Paul and Beth (+bump) Brind also stayed about two weeks. We took a long weekend and went camping at Ginnie Springs, FL. We floated in tubes (freezing!) as well as canoed down the Santa Fe River. Being more of a kayaking girl learning how to steer the canoe was challenging, but ultimately a lot of fun. Crystal clear springs are dotted along the Santa Fe making for some pretty stunning scenery.

Our guest room is empty again, so please come and see us!

### Other Stuff

- We survived Tropical Storm Fay with not much more an inconvenient amount of rain. Our parking lot flooded with a depth ranging from four inches to three feet. Thankfully we parked our vehicle in the four inches area!
- A friend arranged for us to have a tour of the Zero G astronaut training plane. Although we didn't go for a flight we were able to fool quite a few people with our photographs.
- Ben now plays bass in one of the church worship bands, alternating Sunday services with the other group.
- Over Thanksgiving we went to stay in a cabin in the mountains of North Carolina with friends. During a hike on Thanksgiving Day we discovered an abandoned cabin – complete with stacked stone chimney and a “refrigerator” cut into the side of the mountain.

We enjoyed having Christmas with my family in Houston, TX this year. Hopefully we will get to England for Christmas 2009!

Anisha & Ben.

