

## TRAIL MARKERS & MILESTONES

"This is the way; walk in it."  
*Isaiah 30:21*

We have a wood near our home where we love to walk. We set out and often see wildlife - a snake, deer, chipmunk, or woodpecker. The city sounds are left behind and we can hear the wind, smell the pine, and admire the wild daisies. And yet we never know where we're going!

There are paths everywhere - made by feet, by bikes, by water and animals - but we don't know where any of them lead, what the trail is like, how long it will take, or where we will end up. There is no map of this area, no signs, nor trail markers.

Paul, like Jesus, calls us to follow a love road, to walk in a love path, to practice a love way. Not just the idea of the walk but the way in which we walk is important!

Trail markers, milestones, are a way of measuring the journey. In the past few months we have celebrated a number of milestones.

Other trail markers we value include:  
Romans 6:4, 8:4, 14:15  
Galatians 5:16  
Ephesians 2:10, 5:2  
Colossians 1:10, 2:6  
2 Corinthians 5:7

## MILESTONES IN OUR FAMILY



Emma turned 6 and feels that she is becoming a teenager because she's sleeping in longer and wearing the hood on her 'hoodie' up all the time! Seriously, though, Emma 'graduated' from Kindergarten, after a very busy year, and she is looking forward to grade one in French immersion. We've continued to get some practice with our Spanish as she took Saturday class until the end of May and will, we hope, resume in September. Emma's also mastered her bicycle, getting rid of the training wheels!

It has now been more than one year since we began working with SIM, first as volunteers. We have also been one year in the townhouse we continue to rent in Guelph.

In early spring we drove south and for the first time were able to visit and speak at the SIM USA office, SIM International office, and the SIM retirement village. There we met a retired SIM missionary who excitedly told us how she used to serve in Alaska with Heather Crichton, our fellow worker at the Evangelical Church for the Deaf in San Juan, Puerto Rico!

"Come ye apart and rest awhile." Mark 6:31 Those are the words painted on the wall at the front of the church where we were married, and May 20 marked our 20th wedding anniversary! We enjoyed looking through old photos, trying on the wedding dress, and re-visiting the museum church (a good choice, it turns out, since the place where we had our reception AND the hotel where we stayed to begin our honeymoon no longer exist!)



*In front of the Markham church where we were married in 1989. A Chinese wedding was just letting out.*

## SCHOOL OF URBAN BIBLICAL STUDIES



*Fikre with some of the children enjoying activities at our SUBstantial Celebration.*

SUBS has now completed one full academic year! We celebrated God's goodness in June with a SUBstantial Celebration. Co-hosted by an English-speaking congregation and an Ethiopian church, we were asked many times, "Do you speak Amharic?" No, unfortunately. One young woman named Fikre enthusiastically came forward to help Tonya with children's activities. Having grown up in Ethiopia, this young woman was familiar with SIM's work in her home country, and had just been attending this Toronto church for the past year.

Over the past three semesters more than 200 students have been involved in taking classes! These students represent more than a dozen denominations and more than 75 churches spread across the GTA. Looking toward September, we hope to have at least 10 courses run for the fall term.

Among the many positive comments we've received from students, one noted, "As a full-time minister, SUBS has enhanced my personal walk with the Lord and the way I think of Christian ministry." Another says, "My experience of studying with SUBS was like falling in love for the first time - unforgettable!" We are encouraged!



## OTHER MILESTONES: DEAF MINISTRY

It is the 30th anniversary year for the World Mission to the Deaf. We helped to organize a special banquet held in June. PowerPoint slides of the works in Puerto Rico and El Salvador, singing together in sign language, a wonderfully creative and visual drama, and visiting with some of our co-workers (Laurie Teel, Betsy Hoke) from Puerto Rico all made it a special evening.

We helped with decorations, registration, and Andrew presented a PowerPoint he had created updating on the ministry at the church in San Juan. Many people are still struggling to understand why Canadians like us cannot easily get visas to minister in Puerto Rico longer term, like missionaries used to. It's a different world.

The Evangelical School for the Deaf in Luquillo celebrates 50 years this year! A student from the school in PR, James, came up to visit Canada for the very first time as he had never been able to get a passport previously. How fun to take a turn showing him our corner of the world! Although the weather was far too cold and gray for him, he really enjoyed seeing the Blue Jays play in the Rogers Centre with Andrew's dad, Tonya's dad, and Tonya's sister's family. We also took him to visit the Deaf Culture Centre in Toronto, our brother-in-law's food-testing laboratory in Guelph, and to see a bit of pick-up ice hockey in nearby Cambridge. Then James had a great week at the Ontario Camp for the Deaf near Parry Sound, where he was amazed to be with so many teenagers communicating in ASL.

## MEETING OTHERS ON THE TRAIL

In May we had the privilege to meet with a Toronto church's missions committee, and in June we had the opportunity to share of our work at a Chinese church in Markham, where Cantonese and Mandarin services are held concurrently. Having been used to the rhythm and cadence and timing of Spanish, ASL, and even French, it was a new experience for us to adapt to the simultaneous Cantonese translation. We were invited afterwards to a delightful Chinese meal where we were taught to tap our fingertips on the table to say "thank you" for someone pouring tea, and to leave the teapot lid off to indicate it needed refilling. We appreciated the cultural exposure, including watching crackling Peking duck, with neck and head still attached, being rolled up to various oversized tables filled with extended families and friends!

## STEP-BY-STEP

Over the past several months Emma has had the opportunity to 'walk in the way of love', helping to pack a box to send to a new baby in San Juan, meeting new people in each church we visit, stuffing a toy turtle at VBS to send to a child in Haiti, drawing a picture to thank a teacher at school, helping to wash the car for Daddy, cheering a friend in soccer, helping to decorate for parties for SUBS / WMD and family events, and praying for a deaf friend at the school in Luquillo. She is learning, as we are, step-by-step, to serve our Lord and Saviour in every part of this journey.

## BY PRAYER

- Please pray for SUBS and its fall semester.
- Please pray for our capacity, health, and wisdom in carrying out the work.
- Please pray that more will join our support team in prayer and giving; we are at about 60% of our needed financial support. Can you help us network?
- Please pray for wisdom and resources as we seek another car to facilitate Andrew's working in Toronto. Can you help?

In a letter or on a support form (please ask if you need one), specify "Andrew & Tonya Lunau Smith", and our missionary number 030651. You can also make secure online donations.

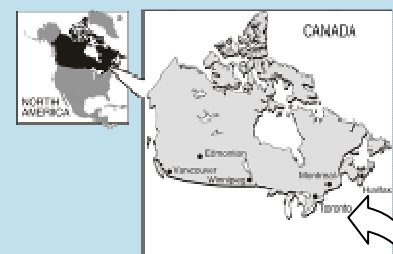
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10 Huntingdale Blvd.  
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1) Emma with Laurie, James, and Betsy.  
2) Visiting with Jen Johnson from PR.  
3) Andrew speaking at the WMD banquet.



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