

# McCRACKEN MEMO

VICKI'S VIEW

## And Baby Makes 4...

**T**hey say that 3's company and four's a crowd, but our four are a crowd we'll keep! Vicki was induced after six long, HOT days of being overdue. **William Scott McCracken** was born at 11:25 AM on August 5<sup>th</sup>, after only 2 ½ hours of labor! We followed Greek tradition in naming our son after his grandfathers. We pray that he will grow up to love and honor the Lord in the way of his two godly grandpas! Will measured a long 22.4 inches and weighed 7 ½ lbs., and has been a delightful baby so far! His sister and brothers are crazy about him! He has black hair and we all think he's pretty cute! We praise the Lord for His sweet gift and we thank all of you for your prayers and well wishes!

We would appreciate your prayers for Kendra, Cody and Kyle as they start school in mid-September. They will all have new teachers this year and Kendra and Cody will have a heavy homework load. We have been so thankful for the school experiences they have had so far, and thank you for your interest. They are growing healthy and happy, and their Greek is pretty good, too!

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BABY "WILL"

## I.T./Athens Refugee & International Minorities Ministry

SCOTT'S SIDE

## Summer Baptisms...

**I**t is always a privilege to baptize new followers of Jesus, but this summer was extra special because in addition to an American believer, a Palestinian, and 3 Kurds from Iraq, our daughter Kendra and our son Cody were baptized in the Saronic Gulf.

Last summer, Kendra told us that while she was sitting in her grandparents' backyard that she felt like the Lord was telling her it was time to ask Jesus into her heart. And so she did!

This past spring, Cody mentioned to us that while sitting in his class at school, he had asked Jesus into his heart!

After several discussions to make sure they understood what they were doing, they were baptized by me on Father's Day, June 21<sup>st</sup>.

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## Summer Team News...

Two special teams joined us to help in the ministry and get an exposure to missions. The first team (of 5) and the second team (of 11) each stayed for one month.

In addition to helping with our regular programs and activities, they also helped plan and implement special outreaches and kids clubs at the refugee camps where we were able to share the Gospel with hundreds of Muslims from Kurdistan.

Many seeds were planted in fertile ground, relationships were established, some turned to Jesus, and doors were opened for further opportunities.

## More Team Members?!

We welcomed the Sirinides family—Themis and Donna, and their children (Matthew, Daniel, Stephen, and Rebecca) to our team as they officially joined us in July. They have already proven to be a tremendous asset and blessing to our team.

In late September, we will be joined by (Canadian) Nicole Bateman.

As you can see, God is bringing our dream of a multi-cultural team to a greater realization as our 17 adults and 12 children are American, Canadian, Albanian, Kurdish, and Greek-American.

Our Kurdish brother **HALMAT**, and our Albanian brother **ILIR** are still in desperate need of monthly financial support. As of this writing, NOT ONE person

responded to the mention of their need in our last letter. If you sense God leading you to make **any** investment, please send your check to **International Teams**, PO Box 203, Prospect Heights, IL 60070, and **indicate that it is for the Greece National Workers** account.

## Athens Refugee Center...

God is moving in some very obvious and encouraging ways concerning the **A.R.C.** ! Due to the generous response of God's people to our last letter, **over \$40,000** has come in to this date. We still need at least another **\$45,000** to add to the \$110,000 already raised for the projected total of \$155,000 but we trust that the Lord will provide it soon.

**Thank you so much to those of you who have given above and beyond for the advancement of God's kingdom through the A.R.C. ! (By-the-way, do any of you work for companies that "match funds" for non-profit organizations?)**

## Praises and Prayer Requests...

- *Praise God for the safe arrival of **William Scott**; please pray for **Vicki's** energy and sanity*
- *Praise God for the summer opportunities to share the Gospel with **Muslims**; pray for those **seeds** to grab root, grow, and bear fruit and for the growth of the new believers*
- *Praise God for our **growing team**; pray for continued **unity***
- *Praise God for the **funds** that have come in for the **A.R.C.**; pray for the rest to come in soon*
- *Praise God for the spiritual growth of the **Kurdish Fellowship**; pray for more Kurds to come to Christ and join the fellowship (all but 4 of the original members have left Greece)*
- *Praise God for the prostitutes being touched through the "**Lost Coin**" ministry; pray for the two who have prayed to receive Christ and for the many who have expressed interest and openness in many different ways*
- *Praise God for the 8 years that we have been in Greece; pray for **Scott** as he devotes more time to studying the **Greek language** this fall*
- *Praise God for **Kendra and Cody's** decisions to trust in Jesus; pray for their **spiritual growth***