

The Bacons

Dear friends and family,

A lot has happened since December 15th, the day we left Batavia, IL with 16 pieces of luggage and one-way tickets bound for Sydney, Australia!

Did we realize what we were getting ourselves into at the time? Not quite. Has it been a nice smooth transition into Australian life, culture, ministry, work and school? Well, not exactly, but then again, we've experienced many answers to prayer and knowing that family and friends are praying for us has made a world of difference especially on those days when living "Down Under" has left us feeling a bit down under.

Praise

- Even in a tight rental market, we found a comfortable 3 bedroom /2.5 bathroom townhouse in a good location – close to shops, the train station, mall and school.
- Suzanne was offered an Administrative position in the Registrar's office at Tabor College - a small non-denominational Bible school located close to home.
- We've found a church home. St. Paul and Barnabas Gynea Anglican Church. It's a mid-sized, mission's minded and outreached focused church with sound teaching and a vibrant youth ministry.
- Lauren and Jeremy started school last week. The "language and culture" has been a bit challenging, but they have maintained a positive attitude!
- Gregory has plunged into the deep end of his new role at Christianityworks and has yet to come up for air, but over- all things are going well and we're thankful for the opportunity to serve.
- Even though we feel the miles that separate us from family and friends we're thankful for Skype and email!



Prayer

- Lauren and Jeremy- school academics are different, language and accents are stronger and the culture a lot more direct. Pray that the kids adjust quickly and that they understand the expectations and are able to make some good friends.
- Suzanne has the challenge of trying to balance full time work/ministry, home, being a mother and wife.
- Pray that we'd find a small group from church and start building some relationships
- Reach out to our neighbors. We're waiting for the right opportunity to host a "barbi" or a BBQ at our place.
- Sydney is a mission field in its self. We are discovering that you are either a Christian or your not and there's not a lot in between unless you're talking about other religions.
- Christianityworks will have to move from its current location in the next couple of months. We currently do not have the resources to find a suitable and larger facility and need the Lord's provision in this area.
- We're still trying to settle in and make our place a home. Our personal belongings from the States have not arrived.
- We still need some furniture items - desks, bookcases and dressers.



In the Blue Mts.

A Lesson in Aussie English

City Center not downtown, mobile not cell phone, take away not fast food, fringe not bangs, toilet not bathroom, lifts not elevators, zed not z, postal code not zip code, double o or double a, not oo or aa, pathway instead sidewalk, boot not trunk (car), "bush" not forest and the list goes



New Year's with ministry friends



First day of school



Garie Beach

With each day, we see God's faithful provision in our lives and his hand at work and we are grateful for the opportunity to partner with you. Thank you for your prayers

Blessings,

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