

reflections



AN UPDATE BY NATHANAEL & MICHELLE MANTHEY, MISSIONARIES WITH HANDI*VANGELISM MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

Taking It on the Road

Please pray for traveling safety and for health during our crazy February schedule... We'll be in western Pennsylvania Feb 2-5 to recruit counselors for this summer's HandiCamp, which is geared toward special needs kids and adults. Please join us in praying for students with a heart and willingness for this position. We visit Geneva College on Wednesday, Grove City College on Thursday, and drive home Friday. The following week, Nathanael drives to Cedarville University in Ohio for the same reason. He'll be gone Feb 11-13.



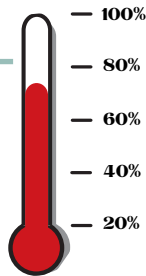
We're also presenting at Lancaster's Missions Fest Feb 19-21. Then Michelle represents H*VMI at her old college during Lancaster Bible College's Missions Conference Feb 23-24. Finally, Feb 26-28 we drive to Asbury College

in Kentucky to look for more HandiCamp counselors. After that, we plan to come home and collapse!

Because Nathanael is now part-time in his job, he no longer receives PTO, so with all of this traveling we will be taking a pay cut this month. Please pray for additional funds to make up for this loss.

SUPPORT UPDATE

In the fall, Nathanael moved up to 2 days a week with H*VMI, leaving the remaining 3 days for his part-time job. We are so thankful for the support that's come in and the days he's able to devote to H*VMI, but support raising has been slow. Please keep praying for God to raise up the financial partners needed so that Nathanael can increase his hours with the ministry. And a big THANK YOU to all of our partners!



Financial support should be payable & sent to H*VMI via the address below or the H*VMI website (click on the "Our Missionaries" page & then on one of our names).

We're Having a Baby!



To your left is Baby Manthey's first wave "hello" at just 13 and a half weeks. (An over-achiever already!)

Michelle is now in her second trimester and can no longer keep her pregnancy hidden. Many of you know that this has been the desire of our hearts for a while now. However, not all of you know

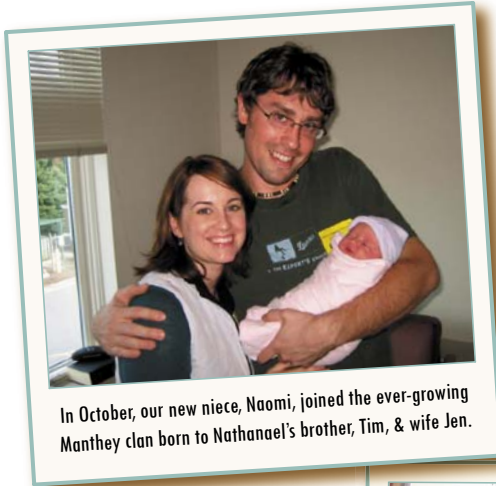
that this is actually our second pregnancy. Michelle had a miscarriage with the first over a year and a half ago. With that in mind, God has given us a very special due date... June 20, Father's Day. What makes this date extra significant is that it was on Father's Day of 2008 when we found out about the miscarriage. He's redeeming Father's Day for us, and we are so thankful!

So, how will this "new development" affect Michelle's ministry with REST? Aside from cutting back my hours to accommodate caring for our little one, I will continue to perform my main responsibilities for the ministry after maternity leave, such as, leading the women's prison ministry in Chester County Correctional Center and creating REST's publications. Not to mention, helping with Tabitha's advertising and administration. However, I will have to stop being so hands on with Tabitha's. Pray for another volunteer to pick up my hours at the store when the time comes.

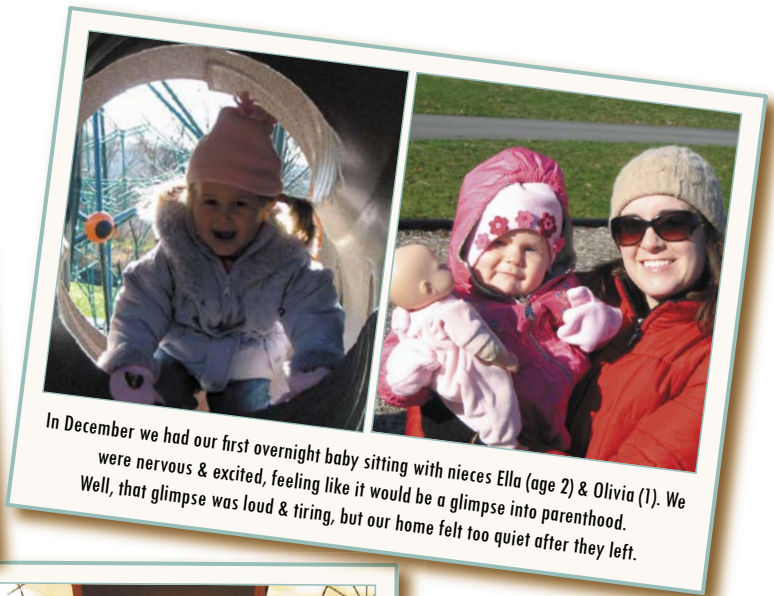
This leads me to an important prayer request... Big Tom. Every week, I take Tom to Tabitha's with me so he can get out of his room at the boarding house, do some shopping and reconnect. Nathanael and I do other things with him, too, but this is our regular, weekly outing. Pray for wisdom for us in continuing to include him in our family on a regular basis, as we are the closest thing has to family. Continue to also pray for his salvation.



SNAP SHOTS



In October, our new niece, Naomi, joined the ever-growing Manthey clan born to Nathanael's brother, Tim, & wife Jen.



In December we had our first overnight baby sitting with nieces Ella (age 2) & Olivia (1). We were nervous & excited, feeling like it would be a glimpse into parenthood. Well, that glimpse was loud & tiring, but our home felt too quiet after they left.

Wrapping Up

Remember our **"Extreme Home Makeover?"** Well, in Nathanael's free time—which isn't much, he continues to plug away at the house. There are a lot of small, yet time-consuming projects that need to be completed, but we've heard from other homeowners that those are never ending. What a blessing to see it all slowly come together, remembering what once was.

For Thanksgiving we traveled to the Boyertown area for a Manthey family dinner. We invited our friend **"Big Tom"** along for the day. He had a wonderful time. Unfortunately, due to poor health he wound up in the hospital and then a rehab center for Christmas & New Years. When Nathanael visited him at the hospital, Tom told the nurse that Nathanael was his "best friend." It was very touching to hear. He is back home now. Pray he learns to take better care of himself!

As for **Tabitha's Treasure Chest**, our thrift store ministry's fate with the new landlord... Praise God, we now have a new, affordable lease! We can stay put in our current location for at least the next year.

Michelle has a **special project request**: As REST's Publications Coordinator, it is her job to create all of the publications for the ministry. Unfortunately, her design software is sorely out of date, making her job much harder. Because of H*VMI's current financial situation, we have to raise the \$423.40 needed for an updated Adobe Creative Suite. If you would like to contribute to this, please send your donation into H*VMI with a separate note attached that says it's for Michelle's Publications Software.

Thank you for your prayers and support! If you are receiving this newsletter through the mail and would like to change that to **email**, please email Michelle at mmanthey@hvmi.org.



Michelle's grandma & mom (center), flanked by REST Director, Cindy, & her Wings student, Twanasue, at H*VMI's Annual Banquet in October. (Twanasue recently passed her GED test after 4 yrs of study!)



With the additional help of volunteer Alison & Goodwill worker Don, Tabitha's is a now a smoothly running machine!



Michelle with her also pregnant sister, Beth, at Christmas. Beth is due just 6 days before Michelle with their third girl!

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