

# The Arthur Family

Cayo District, Belize, Central America

Kevin M. Arthur

## December Prayer Letter

Greetings to All of Our Friends and Family,

The Christmas season conjures up so many sentimental, wonderful memories of home. At this time of the year, I often think back to childhood days of anticipation when my heart would nearly burst with excitement. There was snow on the ground, lights on the tree, decorations, presents, caroling, and peanut butter fudge. It was a time when it was normal to hear people singing about Jesus while strolling through the mall. It seemed to be a time when, for just a short while, our Lord returned to the forefront of the thoughts of the people around me.

Being in Belize brings a different feel to Christmas. It is about 75 degrees as I write this letter. I just opened my windows and turned the fan on. I hear Christmas music playing and can smell the cookies my wife and kids are making but don't expect any snow to come our way. This is a time we miss our family in the United States yet still are very happy having our own family to create Christmas memories with here. Our six kids are now the ones who feel the anticipation of Christmas morning. We love our lives and want to tell you thanks for making it possible for us to be here in Belize.

We have been here now for one year. We have been a part of a young and growing ministry. The Shining Light Baptist Church was started in February of 2009 by Mike Leonard and his family. We have been working side by side to reach the people of Belize. We are in the Cayo District, which is about 45 minutes from Guatemala. Most of our people can speak English, although we have begun a ministry to the Spanish as well. We are reaching out into several villages, namely Georgeville, Santa Elena, Buena Vista, and Esperanza. This year we will meet in our first auditorium for the first time. It is not done yet, but once the roof is on, it will get us out of the thatch-roofed pavilion that we have been meeting in. We will be trading our sawdust floor for one that is concrete. We are pretty excited about this move. Please pray that we will be able to finish this building soon.

Our ministry is continuing to reach out to different age groups as we teach God's Word to as many as will listen. We are busy with Sunday schools for the kids, as well as the adults. Junior Church has about 40 children who regularly attend. Our Bible institute will be starting class again in January. Bible studies, soul winning, and regular services are all being carried out at the Shining Light Baptist Church in large part because of the support that you give to our family. Mrs. Michelle Leonard, my wife Amy, and the Leonard kids have been working hard with the Kids' Club this month getting ready for our Christmas program. Several of our teens have also been active in helping with the program. We anticipate a good service. We are currently running two vans and a 78-passenger bus to pick our folks up. Please pray, as we will soon need another bus to pick everyone up. We want to have a huge impact on our area. Please pray that God will protect our families as we endeavor to fill our Jerusalem with His doctrine.

As I close this letter and this year, please allow me to wish you and your family a very merry Christmas and a very happy New Year. I pray that in 2011 we will be used by God to bring more fruit to your account and more souls to the Kingdom of Christ. May God richly bless you this coming year.

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