



from Our World to Yours...

eberhard newsletter

september 2020

Dear family and friends,

We pray this letter finds each of you safe and staying healthy from this Covid 19 virus. We are fine, but as with most of you, we are getting restless.

Those lines are actually from our LAST prayer letter, but since it's still appropriate, we will say them again! In the meantime, this is what we've learned:

How to beat a pandemic in 5 easy steps:

1. **Plant a giant garden.** So our "victory" garden was more of a defeat, yet it was still lovely to go out and work. We had lots of lettuce and squash that we were able to share with our family and neighbors, but most of everything else was just enough to feed us, or failed miserably. We were very sad that our tomatoes got early blight and didn't produce much at all.
2. **Go back to a part-time job.** I (Julie) went back to the community college and am trying to "teach" again. Like many schools, things look different this year. My classes are only meeting once a week in person (as opposed to twice). The students are supposedly learning the material from the computer, doing their homework, and then coming in to class to get problems cleared up.
3. **Invite someone to come live at your house.** This year we have a seminary student living in our basement. He's rather unique in that he's Brazilian, but raised in Turkey by his missionary parents, yet did all his schooling in English.
4. **Buy a puppy.** Oh dear. This one is taking up a LOT of time! We had been thinking about getting another dog for a long time, and finally it all came together. Neve (Neh-vee) is a white English lab. (Neve is the Portuguese word for snow.) We feel like we're raising a child again. (Aren't we too old for this???)
5. **Be thankful.** Yes, it's easy to get discouraged in these strange times, but we're trying to keep each other encouraged. In spite of everything, there is so much to be thankful for.



Neve meets Samba!

DAVE'S WORK

Dave has not been a very happy camper, because all of his overseas trips have been canceled. His joy is to interact with people, especially those from other cultures. He loves leading the language development workshops and teaching courses—but in person. Doing these things through Zoom and Skype and all the various computer platforms just isn't the same.

But in spite of the pandemic, he was able to teach a course online this summer to 4 internationals and 1 American, and will have another course in October. He's also teaching 2 independent studies through our SIL school. Both of these students already have experience on the field, so it makes a much richer discussion when they bring that background to the course.

Work continues on the Ethnologue as the editors are constantly trying to gather more data on languages around the world. Dave was able to implement a new method by engaging language workers from various countries via Zoom and having them fill in the missing information right then and there.

He also just finished editing one of his academic papers this summer that was accepted for publication in a linguistics journal. It describes Mamainde "youth speech," or the way that Mamainde youth have developed their own way of speaking, that differs radically from that of their parents, and how that variety is now taking over all Mamainde language use.



Lastly, we just want to say thank you for your continued prayers and financial support. Our support has continually dwindled, but we don't think it's from the pandemic. It's just natural attrition (thus, my part time job). But once the pandemic is behind us, we will need to start thinking about visiting churches and participating in missions conferences again. These are hard times for most of us.

Love,

Dave and Julie Eberhard

Addresses:

Home

102 Berry Patch Dr.
Wilmore, KY 40390
Email: dave-julie.eberhard@sil.org

Headquarters (for gifts)

Wycliffe Bible Translators, Inc.
PO Box 628200
Orlando, FL 32862-8200

Dave: 859-351-8455 Julie: 859-797-2299

Our Facebook Ministry Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/473137816404518/>

(for online gifts) <https://www.wycliffe.org/partner/41C8A5>

Please include a separate note indicating, "Preference for the Wycliffe ministry of Dave and Julie Eberhard, Account # 222369"