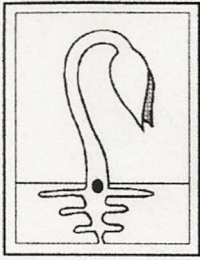


The Sprout Report

Volume 18 Issue 1 The Newsletter of Mustard Seed Ministries January, 2010



"The Kingdom of Heaven
is like a mustard seed..."
Matthew 13:31

News from the Nelsens

Dear Friends,

Just a quick letter to update you on the Nelsen family in 2009. I'll do my best to summarize!

Bethany Joy is now a college freshman at Indiana Wesleyan University. After graduating in May from Faith Academy, she worked at our home church for the summer. She is adjusting well to life in these cold United States.

Nathan and his wife **Melissa** welcomed our first grandchild, **Eve Judith**, into the world on September 29. Nate continues to work as an engineer at an aerospace firm in Rockford, Illinois and is working on his MBA part time. He and Melissa both love being parents and moved into a bigger nest back in July.

Elliot is currently in Baghdad serving a 6 month tour and will return to Texas the end of January. Many ask us "what's next for him?" but it will be a few months before he will know what his next assignment is.

Cindy has had a year of major transitions. In April her sister Judi completed her assignment on earth and is no longer struggling in her battle with cancer. That was a tough goodbye. Next was a move to the States the first week of June for our home assignment. The first week of September, Cindy entered the "Empty Nest" phase of life, a big switch for a woman who is such an awesome mom! However, she saved the best transition for last, becoming a grandma! She has handled each challenge with her usual grace and each blessing with gratitude.

Scott enjoyed teaching, doctoring and ministering the first half of the year. He has equally enjoyed a season of gardening, fishing, hunting and home repair on the Nelsen farm the second half. As a result, we have two freezers which are completely full of vegetables, Illinois grain-fed venison and fish. He also loves being a grandpa.

The ministry in Manila has done well in our absence. Our new partners, the Thompsons, have added a new dimension, a discipleship/livelihood skills program for young men in our area. The medical team has risen to the challenge of serving in an area devastated by typhoons and flooding this year. Although the television cameras are long gone, the needs remain in many areas. We're extremely grateful that the clinic has been blessed with a terrific staff and phenomenally gifted and hard working volunteers. We couldn't have done it without them!

Scott and Cindy head off to England shortly where Scott will go back to school to study Tropical Medicine. We're hoping the old dog CAN actually learn some new tricks before returning to the Philippines later this year.

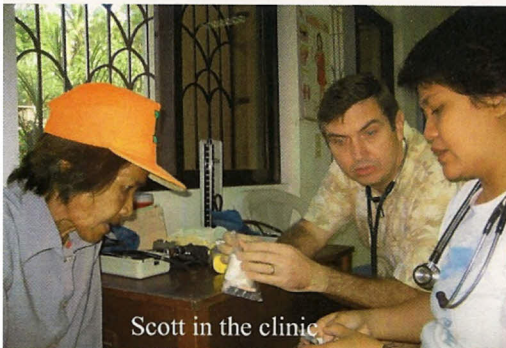
Thank you so much for your faithful support, prayers and concern. We hope you had an awesome Christmas filled with Christ. Oh come let us (continue to) adore Him in 2010!

Love,

Scott + Cindy

Overseas Address:
The Nelsens
P.O. Box 2035
Antipolo 1870, Rizal
Philippines
Phone:
011-63-2-650-8662
email address:
sdnelsen@yahoo.com

U.S. Headquarters:
Mustard Seed
Ministries
18 Nottingham
Springfield, IL 62704
Phone/FAX:
217-787-8976



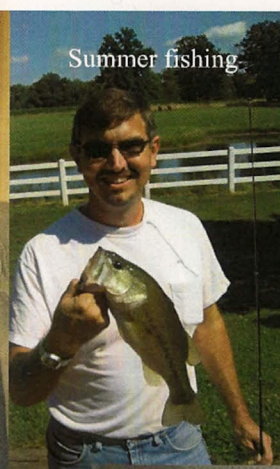
Scott in the clinic



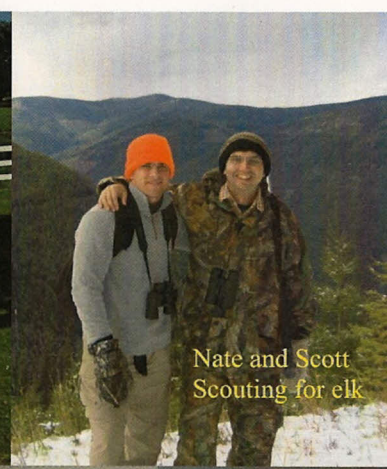
A trainee in the tribe



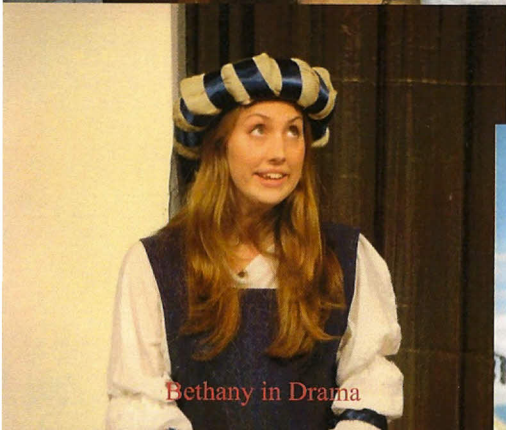
Eve Judith!



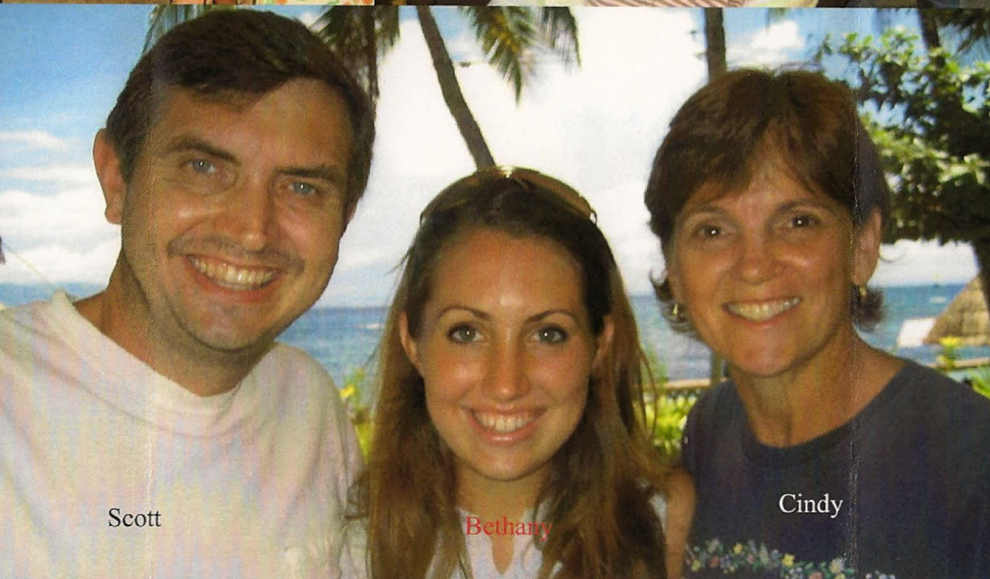
Summer fishing



Nate and Scott
Scouting for elk



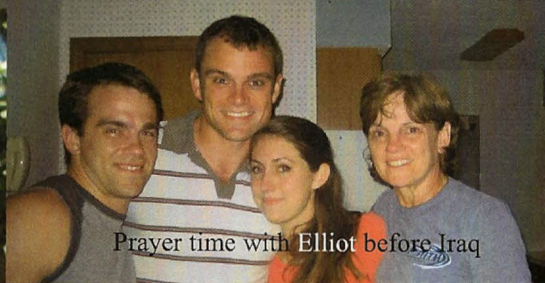
Bethany in Drama



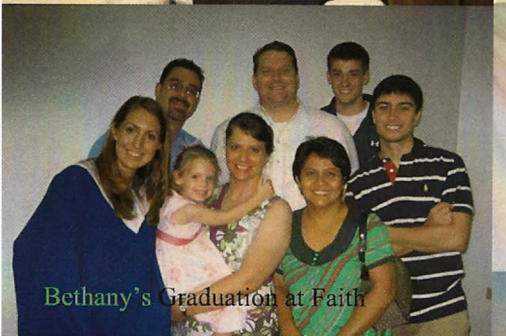
Scott

Bethany

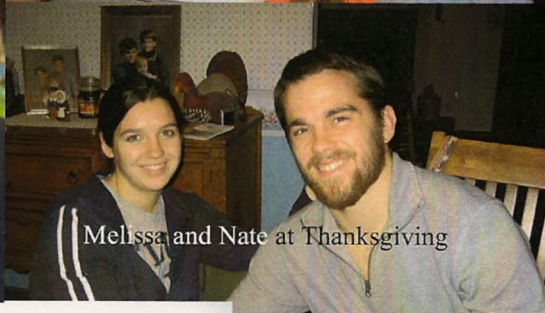
Cindy



Prayer time with Elliot before Iraq



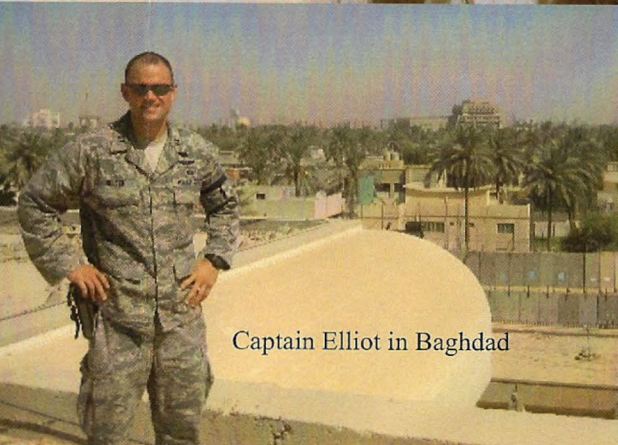
Bethany's Graduation at Faith



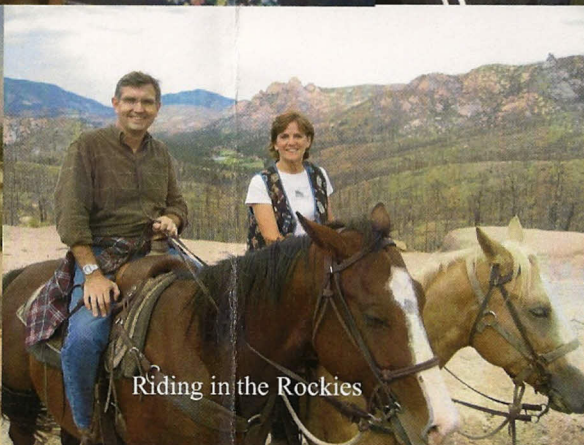
Melissa and Nate at Thanksgiving



Girl's Bible Study



Captain Elliot in Baghdad



Riding in the Rockies



Farmer Scott