



Wake Forest, here we come!



That's right, come August, the Willow Family will be moving their clan to Wake Forest, North Carolina. Dave and Janet have been praying about moving out of state for years, and God has made it clear that the destination is the South. A year ago Dave told Pastor Cliff, "We'll give you 1 year at the church plant to help lay the foundation and then we're outa' here." The Willows have been stellar servants from day one at *GBF*. We thank God for their quick, but critical tenure here. Dave served alongside Pastor Cliff in establishing a youth ministry, including a weekly Sunday school class. Janet served as our first-ever Primary Sunday School teacher, faithfully teaching God's truth weekly to our youngest sheep. Dave was born in Providence, RI and Janet in Nevada, Iowa. They met at *Westmont College* (Cliff & Debbie met at *Westmont*) in 1983 and have been married 21 years. They have lived in their current house in Saratoga for about 16 years...it's 2,600 sq. ft—they're trading it in for a nice 4,200 sq. ft. home! You can do that in uninflated parts of the country.

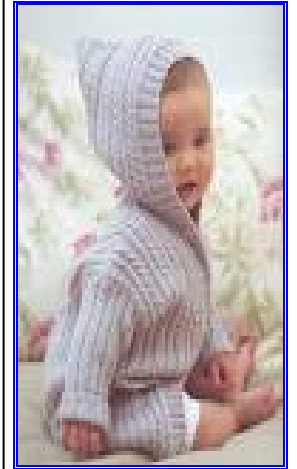
The long-term plan is to have Dave's dad, some brothers and cousins all move to NC where they can have some quality time together. Michael will be moving with the family and is headed to *Liberty* as a freshman—the school is only 3 hours away from Wake Forest, Janet's refrigerator and Dave's bankbook. Michael will be majoring in aviation. Kaitlin will be entering her jr. year and attending the local public high school. Jessica (Boo) will be a big 8th grader and going to the local school as well. Toby, the family dog, gets to go too. An immediate priority for the Willows will be finding a good home church where they can continue to minister to the Body of Christ and grow in their faith. Pray that God leads them to the perfect place. We are going to miss the Willows terribly and it's painful to let them go. But we know this is God's will for them so we commend their future to Him. Keep in touch with them at 7236 Sparhawk Rd., Wake Forest, NC; 27587; davewillow@sbcglobal.net

Cliff's Notes

Random Musings about 'What in the World is going On...?'

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GBF is now 10 months old! (46 weeks actually) A church plant from scratch is exciting because so much happens so quickly—for us that means good things. We've had 388 people come through our doors and have had a 1st time visitor every week. We averaged 75 people in June, one Sunday hosting over 90. We are now in Ephesians 5:18. In June we began our first-ever college ministry! We continue with our monthly prayer vigils, our yummy weekly Fellowship Meals (home-cooked), a Friday night Bible study and Wednesday night Poolside Fellowships. It's exciting to see God building His church as He promised (Matthew 16:18).



"First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved" (1 Timothy 2:1-4) This month our country is 231 years old. The passage above commands Christians to pray for their governmental leaders. When was the last time you prayed for your governor, President and Congress members? Paul emphasizes two things to pray for with respect to our country: 1) pray that we can live peaceable lives, which means ask God to enable us to worship Him freely. Right now we have that privilege...a cause to give God "thanksgivings"; 2) we're to pray for the salvation of our leaders, for God desires their salvation. As we pray for our country, the emphasis is on spiritual realities, not temporal, political earthly matters. When Paul wrote this command he was living in a country ruled by corrupt, pagan Roman emperors (who eventually killed Paul) and compromised local leaders—yet he did not seek political revolution or short-sighted social rebellion. He sought to change individuals, towns, cities and entire regions with the saving gospel of Jesus Christ—the only real hope for humanity. *"When the righteous increase the people rejoice, but when a wicked man rules, people groan" (Proverbs 29:2)*