

Subj: **Overdue Update from McCrackens**
 Date: 2/13/2007 11:25:02 P.M. Central Standard Time
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So very much to tell and not enough time to tell it, so please forgive us for only briefly mentioning 4 things right now (and more for later)...

1. It looks likely that, Lord willing, our adoption referral will finally happen within the next month! Within 4-7 weeks from that, we will fly to China to get our baby girl. As soon as we know for sure, EVERYONE else will know too! :) Thanks to all who are praying for us. Some people have asked about sending financial investments for the adoption... There is a non-profit organization called "The Lydia Fund" to which tax-deductible donations may be sent, with the following very important stipulation:

OUR NAMES MUST NOT APPEAR ANYWHERE ON THE CHECK; PLEASE MAKE THE CHECK OUT TO: THE LYDIA FUND. THE DESIGNATION "FOR SCOTT & VICKI MCCRACKEN'S ADOPTION" SHOULD BE WRITTEN ON AN ENCLOSED PIECE OF PAPER.

Checks can be sent to:

The LYDIA Fund
 c/o Kyle & Sharon Hastings
 1211 Andover Blvd. NW
 Andover, MN 55304

We are still shy about \$3,000 of what we need for final expenses. Many thanks to the two people who already sent help for us!

2. Written recently by our teammates Nader and Ella...Praise God for these new souls who came to the Lord. "D", "R", "M" and "J" are three Iranians and one Afghani who came to the Lord in the last two months. The Afghani man who accepted Christ was a journalist in Afghanistan. He had a lot of persecution from the Taliban that made him run away from his country. When he came here and attended the Fellowship, God open the truth to him and he accepted the Lord in his heart. "M" the Iranian who accepted Christ has the sickness of Hepatitis. According to the doctor it is not the contagious kind. He is staying away from Athens in one camp in Labrio. Every Saturday he is coming to Athens and stays with his friends just to attend the Sunday Church service in which we are in partnership (the Greek Church) so we can build up relationships among the refugees and the Greek believers. And in the afternoon, he also comes with us for the night service at the Persian Fellowship. One thing he said that was very encouraging was his sickness brought him to the Lord. Praise God that He is showing His truth and His mercy to these people.
3. Please enjoy reading the attachment (or going to the following link and reading "My Story" when you get there: www.helenasmrcek.com) The story explains it all and you will see some old pictures of us. I will hopefully give you some exciting news in the near future about this special woman Helena.
4. In 2006, we had several individuals and one church reduce (or entirely discontinue) their support due to serious challenges they are facing themselves. The result was that our monthly support dropped by an average of over \$1000/month. That hurts! Additionally, the church that had been paying for 50% of our furlough tickets each time informed us last month that they will no longer be able to assist us in this way. As a result, our plans for furlough in the States this summer are probably going to be canceled. We are NOT asking people who already give to this ministry to give more! You are already generously doing enough, but would you please

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pray about RECRUITING OTHERS (individuals, Sunday School classes, missions committees, etc.) about joining our support team?

We have much more to share, and much more to ask you to pray about, but this is more than enough for now. Thanks for reading this far and for partnering with us to reach the nations through Athens. We NEED you and appreciate you.

Grateful,

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Web pages:

www.ITRefMin.org (click "Teams", then click "Athens")

www.iteams.org

<http://refminathens.blogspot.com> (some refugee stories)

www.geocities.com/scripturecalligraphy (purchase beautiful art and support our teammates)

www.helpinghands.gr/en/default.htm

www.helpinghands.watchmyshow.info

www.myspace.com/smccracken730

Our ministry is striving to be a FULL-SERVICE station on this exit ramp of the Refugee Highway by partnering with churches to offer practical services which demonstrate the love of God for the refugee as a whole person, and which invite the refugee to be a part of advancing His kingdom among the nations.