THE

W.A.M REPORT

Dear Friends,

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Yes, we are still here in Switzerland (in case you were wondering). It is hard to believe 3 months have come and gone already. Only 13 months left to learn this French!! HELP!!

Le français! Class is going well for us. We are beginning to review the things we have already covered plus the teacher adds a few new rules about the language to keep life interesting. Our class size has shrunk to 7 which gives us more opportunities to speak and ask questions. We are able to form sentences more quickly now. Instead of thinking about how to say something for 2 minutes it only takes us 1 minute now. (I'm exaggerating, but not too much.)

A big thanks to all of you who have been praying for our physical health! We have not missed one day of class all winter because of sickness!

Language learning is a humbling experience. Imagine hearing children speak and not being able to understand anything they say. It is frustrating in conversation when we know what is being talked about and would like to contribute, but we just don't know enough vocabulary and grammar. May God continue to give us the endurance and ability to learn French. We constantly have to be on guard against comparing ourselves with other students in the class who seem far ahead of us. We have to remember that everyone learns at different paces and our worth in Christ is not based on our language ability but on our willingness and obedience to do what He has for us each day. pray that the Lord would remind us of this daily so that we might not become discouraged.

Studying French could easily be all-consuming but we are trying to keep our lives balanced with recreation, personal Bible-study and fellowship with other foreigners and Swiss! We are involved with the Jr. high youth at church and Michael has been attending a weekly adult Bible study. I (Wendy) began reading through the Bible in January and I'm up to 2 Samuel. I've never read it from cover to cover before. pray I stick with the schedule and that the Lord reveals more of Himself to me. Michael & I both love to read books, but reading a lot in English is not so good for learning French, and unfortunately at this point we can not read French much beyond a 2nd graders level. That is one of the things we are trying to balance daily.

E-MAIL!! A friend of ours is now letting us share a computer account with him. This means that we now are able to send and receive E-mail; and it's FREE!! In case you have access to a computer E-mail system, our E-mail address is: Daniel.Duke@lettres.unine.ch (always mark on the subject line for Mike & Wendy) Note: This is an INTERNET address.

Neuchâtel! What a wonderful place to live. We have bus passes which allow us to travel on the extensive bus and train system all around the city and countryside. It is fun to hop on a train for a quick 15 minute ride to a neighboring town and hike back home. My favorite hike follows a river down through a gorge, it's incredible! We have also begun swimming twice a week at the city's indoor pool. Three sides of the building are all windows so there is a great view of the Alps when there are no clouds. The swimming is great therapy for Wendy's back and feet problems, which are persisting to bother her. We would covet your prayers concerning her complete healing.

Thanks again to all who have kept in touch and continue to share your lives with us through letters, notes and cards & other special surprises! You are an encouragement and a blessing to us.

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