

# Lisa Richardson

MISSIONARY TO

## INDONESIA

PO Box 142  
Salatiga 50711 Jateng  
INDONESIA  
email: nona.lisa@mac.com



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### 2007-2008 at Mountainview International Christian School: What a year!

#### THE LORD GIVETH ...

##### REVIVAL!

The greatest excitement of 07-08 was the year-long revival that the Spirit brought to campus. Many students turned to the Lord ... either for the first time or on a much deeper level. About thirty secondary students (nearly a third of our population!) were baptized! The revival began in August, and most of the baptisms were in March.



##### A MUSIC TEACHER!

After a year and a half with our formerly terrific music program on an indefinite "hold," God sent us a wonderful music teacher second semester ... and another coming next year!

##### MINISTRY FOCUS!

In addition to our optional annual service trips, we had our first-ever "Service Day" in which every secondary student and teacher participated in service projects, from cleaning up a neighborhood play area to witnessing in other cities. (I think it's no accident that the majority of the baptisms came shortly after Service Day.) Several classes organized service activities of their own as well. I got to tag along when a Bible class visited a local prison to lead a service and take some gifts. And as an unplanned/unexpected opportunity, I translated my first-ever English-to-Indonesian sermon. (I've



*Here are my roommates and I. We have three generations in our household: Amber, who is young enough to be my daughter, and Pat, who is old enough to be my mother.*

##### PAT VAN DER MARK'S RETURN TO INDONESIA!

My long-time roommate (who was forced to leave the country last June due to new work permit regulations) was allowed back! We don't know what changed, but we know that God was at work!



*A couple of our students leveling the ground for a play area in my neighborhood.*



*Our work crew (neighborhood play area work) at the beginning of service day. They were much dirtier at the end!*

translated the other direction for American guests frequently enough, but it's much harder the other way, especially without seeing the sermon first.) It was scary ... and sometimes funny ... but God got me through it.

### **SUCCESSFUL ACCREDITATION VISIT!**

The final word isn't in yet, but our four-year accreditation process culminated in a visiting team's appraisal of our school. We have verbal assurance that they are strongly recommending us for accreditation with ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International).

### **TEACHERS FOR THE 08-09 SCHOOL YEAR!**

Earlier than we've experienced in recent years, we have our needed teachers lined up and on the way!

### **AND THE LORD TAKETH AWAY ...**

The school year began with the loss of Ester, our elementary secretary, a fine Christian girl, to leukemia.

A new elementary teacher decided to leave after just a month of school (but that was just at the time that God sent Pat van der Mark back to us). God knows what we'll need before we do.

The school year ended with the loss of a part-time elementary student, another fine young Christian girl, due to a biking accident.

### **BLESSED BE THE NAME OF THE LORD!**

God has been present and active on campus as our students have struggled with the tough issues of "unanswered" prayer and loss of a loved one. Through the pain, He has brought joy and deepening faith. Students and teachers have lifted one another up, prayed together, encouraged each other, and grown together. This has been an exciting place to be! Praise Him for His most excellent greatness and grace to us.

Personally, I want to commemorate the passing of my best canine friend of the last fifteen years. My wonderful dog Billy has been on a slow but steady


decline for quite a while now, and he finally came to his end just after the school year ended. (And I'm so grateful that it was afterwards.) It was very sad for me, but God prepared a gift to ease this loss as well. In March (before Billy's death), some friends who moved to Singapore gave me their 10-month-old toy poodle puppy that they couldn't take with them. She's adorable and feisty, and she "took to" me immediately, following me everywhere. I was even able to get her at the beginning of spring break so that we had a week to help her get adjusted to the new household. Isn't God wonderful in the ways He shows His loving care of us? Thank you, Papa!

I'll be on my standard one-month furlough from the end of June to the end of July, and I hope to see many of you then. Of course, between going on a graduation trip with my mom and two of my nephews, and going to Florida for the wedding of another nephew, my time in Maryland will be all too short.

### **PLEASE PRAY ...**

- for our new books to arrive on time and with little or no taxes.
- for our new teachers to make it in time for new teacher orientation and to have a smooth transition to life in Indonesia.
- for all the preparations that go into getting a new school year off to a good start.
- for God to continue to be with us and guide us and fill us and work through us at Mountainview.

Thanks for your love and support!



Lisa Richardson



*Jobie, my new dog.*