

The Brushstroke

Your missionary prayer letter from Portrait

November 2006

Introducing Skye Annalise Matteson



March 18, 2006
6 lbs 3 oz
18 3/4 inches long
Light brown hair
Blue eyes



Here's what her brother and sister had to say on the subject:

(Alaska) "Having a baby sister is even better than a pet!"

(Simon) "Mommy, you need to take this baby back; it cries too much!"

(Alaska) "Skye is the most beautiful baby I've ever seen."



Dear Friends,

At our house this year life has been all about 2 a.m. feedings, tripping over toys, reading bedtime stories and wiping sticky faces.

Our kids keep us alternately enchanted and overwhelmed. Alaska (6) is in 1st grade, and a whiz at reading and math. She loves to draw with markers and dress up like a princess. Simon (3) eagerly awaits starting school, but for now enjoys attending his Moppets class at MOPs (Mothers of Preschoolers), and likes to finger-paint and do puzzles.

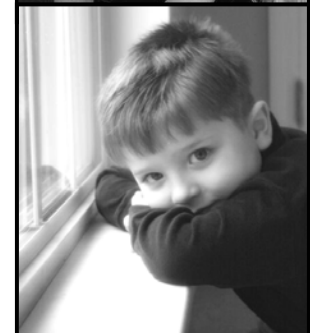
Skye has captured all our hearts since her arrival in March. Her recent developments include waving bye-bye, standing on her own, and climbing the stairs. Big sister Alaska is good at comforting her when she cries, brushing her hair and helping her walk, and Simon likes to hold her, help give her spoonful of food, and dance like a monkey to make her smile. Between the three of them, we're never short on laughter.

Greater Europe Mission has done some reorganizing and we've been asked to shift our focus from Member Care to another department. Although we are still traveling, lately we've been thinking about pursuing a more settled lifestyle, so Pete has applied to a number of churches for a staff position. We welcome the opportunity to invest ourselves in a church congregation, when the right situation presents itself.

This week Alaska's homework assignment was to draw something she is most thankful for. As she talked through her ideas – including Barbie dolls and her favorite TV shows – without my help or input, she decided to draw a picture of her family. Of course I was thrilled, and it reminded me that even when I feel frazzled, more than anything I am immensely grateful for my loving husband and three sweet, happy children, who in turn keep me reminded of God's unending love for me. As we continue to trust the Lord for His direction in the coming months, we wish you a blessed Christmas season and God's clear leading in your own life. We know He is good and worthy of our trust.

Much love,

For both of us - Pete & Tina Matteson



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