



Experiences for Exposure

What happens when a band of executives and staff workers travel nationwide for events, church visits, and name exposure? A lot of unexpected adventures, detours, delays, and excitement, that's what! This year was an abnormal year for summer events. While typically, the executives all leave the office for the EAA Airventure (an international airshow in Oshkosh, WI), do the event for a week and sandwich it between church visits over both weekends, then come home, this *venture* was only just the start of our journey this year. We didn't go home after EAA. We instead made our home in a hotel room for almost a week in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

By the way, during the entire month we were gone, we learned home isn't a place—it's a state of being. It's not the building; it's the people you're with where you find love, comfort, stability, and lasting relationships. "Abide in Me and I in you," Jesus says in John 15:4-11. The whole of the

discourse is abiding. The word itself comes from abode, *home*. So, while being uprooted for a month and frequently unsure of where we were when waking up, home was in Jesus. We were kept stable with Him and the love of those around us.

The team was sick that week between the end of EAA and Camporee. I did laundry in the sink in our room. I worked remotely when able as the hotel WI-FI was down—down like our team. We may not be in a foreign country. However, we still get hit with egregious difficulties while pressing forward to serve God and impact His children. Our administrative and marketing work while away from the office is just as, if not more, demanding than that of the field; it's just in a different, fast-paced North American way.

The following week was Camporee, and we had to be fit for what was coming. We knew it was going to be trying. I did my best to nurse my family to their feet, living the



resourceful life out of a hotel room, until finally, we could head the rest of the way to Bill, Wyoming; our rooms were ready. There, we would stay in another hotel for the week of Camporee. At least this hotel had a gym that Hadahsa and I used nearly every day and had fun.

It was the getting there part that was challenging. During the day drive to Bill from Sioux Falls, we unexpectedly visited four major tourist spots dotted along our way: the Badlands, Wall Drug (we had lunch there), Mt. Rushmore, and Crazy Horse. The Badlands were exponentially hot at a whopping 109 degrees Fahrenheit. The rocks there radiated hotter the deeper we drove through the park. Our car didn't fare well, and the air conditioner suddenly wouldn't work. It was at least 80 inside. It was a desperate heat, that's for sure. It reminded me a bit of the heat in the Philippines. Both places induced a point of soul-searching; it is funny how *heat* does that.

Wall Drug had many interesting knickknack shops with beautiful and trinkety items. Mt. Rushmore was iconic and majestic but somehow smaller than I was expecting. The beauty, though, was transcendent. The Crazy Horse monument was something that I wished had been finished. Kyle had seen it 20-some years earlier and was disappointed that the mountain carving was still as it was when he last visited. But apart from the slow progress of the mountain sculpture, the rich history and culture inside the visitor center were beautiful. It made me think of our time in the Philippines, the service being done up north in Ontario, Canada, in Sioux Lookout, and the people Jim Kincaid serves up in Alaska—a much simpler life with family, respect, and honor. Yet, at the top of it all, it made me think of mission work abroad, how God loves each and every person, and the fact that He died for each one.

While there's not room here to share the intense week of Camporee, driving back through Colorado to check on a plane donated a while back, and making the coveted trek back to our usual place of dwelling here in North



Carolina, maintenance has built up in the shop while we've been absent. But in all our travels, God maintained us and strengthened our resolve to persevere. Every day was a trial of perseverance. It was grueling, no doubt, but we came away with further refined characters, greater faith, and some lovely new and deepened relationships. *Where is home for you?*

Thank you to our readers and donors for the continued support of AWA. Because of you, we are able to attend events like these and reach so many more people! We couldn't do it without you!

Current Maintenance needs:

ELT Battery – \$380

Tires for N81708 in the Philippines – \$130

Extra A&P mechanic help

Blessings!

Kyle, Rebecca, and Hadahsa Stevenson



**Your AWA Mission Family
stationed at AWA Headquarters
in Wilson, NC:
Kyle, Rebecca, & Hadahsa Stevenson**