

# The Ellgen Watch

March 2007

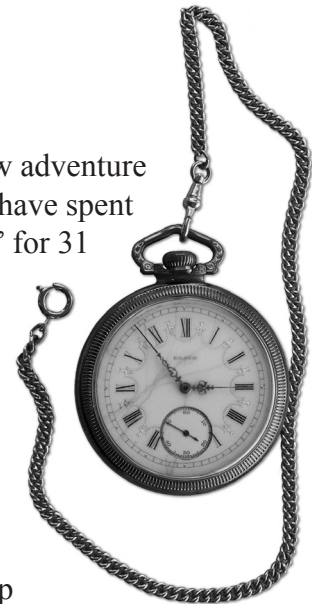
Dear Ellgen Watchers

Guten Tag meine Freunde! Have you ever sat down in the midst of a new adventure to look back over the first few days or weeks to see how and where you have spent your time? Brad and I did that this morning—we have been “in country” for 31 days now—and we decided to share some of that review with you. So, grab a cup of coffee and journey with us.

On the official paperwork side we have obtained base passes, and residence permits, established bank accounts, and put the phone and utilities in our name. Brad has done the accounting for December, January, and is caught up for February.

We have met with our landlord (and are enjoying developing a friendship with him), Cadence colleagues, chaplains, plus the company commanders and first sets. of one of the battalions here. We have formed an advisory board and scheduled our first meeting.

As far as in the community religious programs side we have attended chapel, PMOC and PWOC (protestant men/women of the chapel) and are getting involved in the planning of summer VBS.



This includes ushering once so far. Thus far we have had 13 single soldiers come over for a meal whom we met at chapel, and who had not previously known of this ministry.



*Friday dinner and Bible study*

## **Soldiers and food and fun**

– well, so far we have hosted Friday dinner and Bible study three times with a total of 52 adults attending and we have a workable child care plan in place for that evening. Three times we have hosted a midweek dinner and discussion evening – so far 18 singles



*On a day trip to Trier*

have come. We have opened our home for soldiers to spend the night rather than return to the barracks - 12 have taken us up on that idea. Nine people joined us on day trips of Trier and Heidelberg. Oh yea, we hosted a Super Bowl party too.

**Nuts and bolts** – Brad has replaced a battery in the van and fixed the headlights. We have painted the apartment so that it feels like our home. We have moved around things and received our household shipment and are happily unpacking and doing more settling, which includes buying and putting together bookcases etc.

We are enjoying getting to know the people who will be part of our new life. However we realize that we have also disappointed some



*Sarah and Debbie*

people, too. There are so many hopes and expectations that we were bound to disappoint some, as much as we wish it could be otherwise.

We have received our January statement of giving from you all, and are blessed by your faithful, generous giving. Right now, we have all we need, and are as Paul said, “amply supplied.” Thank you!

Brad has been very faithful about recording in both words and pictures our journey, so if you have access to a computer you will find frequent updates at [ellgens.com](http://ellgens.com) if you look under the news section.

Thank you so much for all of your prayers.

In His Service,

*Brad & Debbie*

Brad & Debbie Ellgen



*Our household shipment*