

Dear Half our Sponsoring Congregations,

It occurs to me to write those of you whom we visited last February and March during our evacuation leave. We enjoyed very much that time, and felt it strengthened our ties with you.

But you should know that the evacuation did affect our summer home leave time. It was as if some of the work we would have done this summer -- like visiting your congregations -- got taken care of last winter, and our home leave was shortened and moved backwards as a result.

It means that the weekends we have, we must offer to sponsors that didn't get to host us last winter, and we would not have a weekend to offer you this time around. (You got the better deal, I think: a Sunday in prime time, rather than during summer vacation!) Still, if you had a weekday event in late August or early September -- a women's meeting, or a midweek service, or some such -- where a missionary message would be useful, we could consider whether we could be available. Otherwise, it will have to be next time around.

Thankful for your support of our work, and particularly for our relationship with your congregation, we are

Sincerely yours,

Mark and Linda Nygard