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Subject: A little update!

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Hi Family,

It's Sunday afternoon -- and I've had another eventful day! I am in the process of writing about the past week in my general email, so I won't go into details about that in this email.

I went to church this morning and before long Old Feng came in and sat beside me, I think he got impatient with the preacher after she had spoken for 50 minutes, because he went outside!! He returned after a few minutes and wanted me to follow him. I was reluctant to do that since the service was not over. Although, people seem to feel okay about moving about the sanctuary at will, as well as answering their cell phones during the service! When the service was finally over he told me that a Mr. Zang Jian, principal of Jiaozhou No. 3 Middle School was expecting me at his school!!! News to me!!! A car was waiting for us to take us to this school.

Mr. Zang used to teach at the No. 1 Middle School, where I am working, but this year he was transferred to No. 3 Middle School and is now the principal. This school is within a two minute walk from my hotel. We met Mr. Zang -- who, of course, has met Lally many times!!! (Everyone in Jiaozhou knows Lally!!) One of the English teachers took Mr. Feng and me around the school -- and then they said they wanted to serve us lunch in a nearby restaurant! It was a small group this time -- just the English teacher, a chemistry teacher, a photographer, Mr. Feng and me. But they served up a HUGE meal -- about 10 courses, and finished off with three huge platters of jiaozi!! The Chinese do not let any food go to waste -- so all the leftovers were put into plastic bags and each one of us will have a full dinner tonight! Since I don't have a refrigerator to keep things cold, I came home with 8 jiaozi which will be my dinner tonight!!

The principal also gave me a huge box of apples -- probably 50 - 60 apples!!! Anyone for apple pie? I'd make some if I had an oven!! Am not sure how I will be able to use all these apples! Each teacher at their school received a box of apples for Teacher Appreciation Day last week. Mr. Feng had come to church with a bag of unshelled peanuts for me. So, I have apples and peanuts overflowing into my hotel room!! I could set up shop on the sidewalk like all the other vendors do!

Hope you will have a good Sunday!!

Love,

Mom/Margie/Meta