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Psalm 145:13

“Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The Lord is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made.”

Ministry Update

"Are you Satisfied?"

That was the question the Lord asked me, Anna, after my summer review and processing/fall preparation with Him here in mid August. I was startled by the question, yet immediately responded: "Yes!" Then I sat there actually thinking through my answer and realized that although there are many areas I want to see change happen in myself, my family, my missionary clients, my country and the brokenness of this world - deep down inside I am satisfied. For a second I feel guilty, as I am very aware of the pain and struggles I navigate and help others traverse, and yet I still am satisfied. Not with status quo but a place in me that is deeply happy and satisfied by and with Him. This unleashed praise and gratitude towards Him and I was able to accept this peace and consolation He had already given me before He asked the question. Because He is faithful to all His promises! We pray for this deep consolation for all of you as you journey in this season with the Lord.

Summer

Our summer usually starts with goodbyes, helping missionaries move, transition well and squeezing in some family time. This year it was the same, but it spread into early August. Several missionaries left in mid to late June and a couple left in July, plus one left in August. There are logistics to configure, bureaucracy to fulfill and healthy leaving strategies to implement, plus a good dose of tears, panic and nostalgia all sometimes in the same day. We had to say goodbye to some of our own adopted family members and release them into their next season. Emily had been with us for 6 years and Rachel for 5 years. In late July and early August new and returning staff started trickling in

which is sooner than the past years. We have been able to already help several of the new staff and are helping returning staff with their reentry.

Sprinkled in between all of that were able to squeeze in several family times and are so glad we did. We got to see Hannah graduate in person in the Netherlands and visited the area with her. We are so proud of her and are excited to see where her journey will lead. She is staying in the Netherlands for now to look for job opportunities and to stay plugged in with her faith community.

We took a trip and host some missionaries in Switzerland over Micah's birthday. Who just turned 17 and is a junior now! We have enjoyed going on lots of hikes with Micah this summer as well as David and Micah going overnight hammock camping in our woods nearby.

Megan is still going to be volunteering at the library at BFA and taking online courses.

Fall

Even though it is not fall yet, for us the new ministry year is in full swing. Ladies groups are being formed and individual appointments are filling the calendar. We are planning again to host groups of single missionaries and couples for pizza nights and dinners to stay in touch and provide a meal and respite.

New this fall will be men's fire nights that David will host. We are excited to see how this will resonate with men in our community and where the Lord will take this.

Anna will host retreats again and is looking forward to less restrictions and disruptions because of a pandemic.



Praises

- Provision and protection for those transitioning out of or community. Rachel is settling in well and Emily found a place to live. The others are also reporting good re-entry to the US and Cannada.
- Good family times before we had to release our adopted daughters.
- A busy but restorative summer! We are ready for a new year!

Prayer Requests

- For Hannah to find a good job and to adjust to being a working adult.
- Divine appointments with new staff in our area. Meeting those that fall through the cracks of our systems in this community.
- That the men who are being spiritually nudged to come to Davids' fire nights will come and be blessed.
- That His presence would be felt as we engage and host.

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BFA all staff

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