

As we look back on our calendar since our last newsletter in March, we are very thankful for the part you played in supporting us by prayer!

- Beni's senior music composition recital (with our family band playing several pieces) went very well. Beni also received his bachelor's degree from K-State *summa cum laude* last month and is continuing to compose music, teach music lessons, and work for the county.
- Paula and I managed to sneak away to Illinois without any kids and celebrate our 25th wedding anniversary by attending the Rural Home Missionary Association's annual pastors & wives conference. This was a tremendously refreshing time!
- Almost 200 guests came to the graduation dinner and Scottish country dance we threw for Beni and Peter!
- With the help of Jake Blankenship, our kids have completed filming a new short movie called *Shadows* written by Amos, illustrating the importance of spiritual regeneration and evangelism. *Please pray for the completion of this movie as Beni writes a musical score and Peter and Jake edit the video and sound.*
- There have been more friends' birthday and graduation parties than ever to attend this spring – some of them out-of-town. I guess it comes with having lots of teen and twenty-something kids, but it has turned a busy spring into an overwhelming one. *Please pray for us to understand how to steward the many relationships God has given us.*
- Peter, Grace Anne, and Irene got high marks at the 5-state regional speech tournament for NCFCA, so they get to compete at the national tournament in Minnesota this week! *Please pray for them – and for Amos as he coaches them.*

And praise God for preserving us through trials:

- God has been sustaining us through respiratory colds which have been almost continuous since January. *Please pray for good health!*
- A bunch of shingles slid off of our roof for no discernable reason. Thankfully we got them nailed back on without any water damage!
- Paula survived severe appendicitis and an appendectomy on Mother's Day. The CT scan also showed gallstones, which explains other symptoms she has been experiencing. *Please pray for a swift recovery from the surgery and for supernatural healing from the gallstones* so that she won't need another surgery!
- Our cars have required major repairs over the last couple of months, making transportation challenging, but thankfully, additional gifts came in to our "special needs" fund to cover these repairs, as well as to repair the clothes dryer and to replace our dead microwave and lawnmower!
- Both Nate's parents and Paula's parents have experienced greater health challenges this year. *Please pray for Nate and Paula to know how to respond to the needs of their parents*, especially since we live far away from them.
- The number of life challenges that people in our church (and other friends outside our church) are experiencing doesn't seem to be decreasing. *We really need God's wisdom to counsel and grace to bear long-term burdens alongside the "sheep" God has called us to shepherd.*



Nate & Paula giving a charge to Peter at his high school graduation



Our tired family at the end of the Scottish country dance



Photos from the new movie, SHADOWS.

LEFT: Main characters include Grace Anne, Darin Brunson, and Amos.

RIGHT: Amos, Jake Blankenship, Peter, and Caleb Linville review footage on the camera screen.



Kid's Corner: Aletheia Joy Wilson

In my last Kid's Corner (Sept. 2012), I asked y'all to pray that I could learn to read; now I'm able to read lots of little-kid books – and some big-kid ones. I'm copying verses out of Ezekiel right now for quiet times – it's easier to read them after I've made the letters bigger. I'm 8 years old, and just lost my 8th tooth! In school, math is getting hard because it's minus-ing numbers with two numbers now! When it's time to play, I'm learning how to climb trees. When you go higher up, the wind blows in your face more, and it feels good. I also like walking around the block with Mama and Mrs. Treece. I was watching Jake and Peter do stuff with their new movie on the computer – there was a picture with a road sign in it, and they just cut the sign out and added in a mountain! At night when we go to bed, Hope and I sometimes make latch-hook pictures like a rug while Papa reads to us. The last two books were kinda sad because a Christian man dies at the end, but the next book looks cool. Keep praying that I can get to read chapter books like that!



Ale is our 9th child



In addition to the italicized prayer requests on the front of this newsletter...

- Please pray for life direction for the several high-school boys and girls in the New Testament Greek class Nate is teaching on Tuesdays and for the three young couples attending the Thursday night parenting Bible study which Nate is teaching at our home. One of the husbands remarked last week, "I've never seen a functional family in operation before; how do you do it?"
- Please pray for Amos and Peter as they embark on a summer internship with a former member of our church who is a tactical dog trainer. Part of their job will be helping him and his family get established in Kentucky where he will provide security for the new Ark Encounter museum!
- Pray for Josh as he settles into a living situation in Ohio and carries out a summer internship for a judge there.
- Nate would appreciate continued prayer for wisdom in figuring out how to cut down on work hours and get appropriate Sabbath rest. (All the extras going on this spring kinda made that difficult!) Also, keep praying for edifying messages to share each Lord's Day as he continues his sermon series on 1 Peter.

