



Nate's Resurrection Day devotional with kids on the church lawn,

Nate & Paula with students of their childbirth class showing off their babies (Maggie is our baby!)

Nate took 4 sons & 2 disciples on a backpacking trip in Alabama

Life as Ministry

Life has been so full between sickness (did you know a family can be contagious with chicken pox for over a month??), travel (visiting family and officiating a parishioner's wedding on the East Coast!), preaching and starting up two new worship teams at church, and teaching (Greek, childbirth education, Scottish country dancing, parenting, men's Bible studies, and church membership classes), that we have not been able to find time to write a newsletter in half a year, but recently, I (Nate) became couch-ridden with a back injury after falling out of a tree, and I didn't have to organize the week's worship service because it was being led by one of the new worship teams with a visiting missionary preaching... so, in God's providence, I had time to write a newsletter!

One incident sticks out in my mind from the past half year that took our hospitality ministry to a new level: One of our church members met a young couple that was new in town and invited them to come to our church. That Sunday morning, when the new couple walked in to our church building, I chatted with them, trying to get to know them. I asked where they were living, and they said

they were living in their car. The guy said he had found Christ while listening to audio recordings of the Bible during COVID when all the businesses and schools were shut down and he had nothing else to do.

I noticed during the sermon that the new couple was sitting on the edge of their seats listening. Later, most everybody had gone home after the service, and Paula and I realized that if we did not invite the couple to our house, they might end up spending the night in the parking lot. After some quick thinking and praying (and swallowing some fears), we invited the couple into our home.

They stayed with us for about two weeks while the guy started a job, and our daughters invited the gal into their lives. Paula even found an apartment for them and haggled with the landlord to get an affordable price. Oh, did I mention, they were pregnant, so we enrolled them in our childbirth-education classes to prepare them for their first child. They have also been taking my church orientation/membership classes. We would appreciate your prayers for this couple to keep faithfully following Jesus.



Nate with new grand: Jeremiah

Paula with new grand: Iain

Our kids watching the eclipse with our Ohio grandkids

Celebrating Nate's mom's birthday in Alabama with our daughter Irene's family

Our trailer fell apart on the drive home!

Kid's Corner: Hope Victoria

I finished high-school! For the past several months I have been a full-time nanny for my niece Jane, my sister Grace Anne's youngest child. (See photo below of me with Grace Anne's kids). However, as Grace Anne gets more in the swing of things she needs me less and less.

Also since graduating I have really enjoyed getting to play more music in our community orchestra, taking a girls' trip to Indiana with Aletheia and Betsy to see the band For King and Country, and throwing a dance party for my graduation. (The photo below of me and my sisters-at-home wearing purple is from that party.) We also went on a trip to Florida and got to stay in the

house my great-grandpa built! And then I caught chicken pox and had to celebrate Independence Day in quarantine, watching fireworks from our backyard pool.

I have many dreams about what to do with my increasing free time, including learning to fly helicopters, going on another mission trip, and doing further language and music study. I'd appreciate your prayers for wisdom in deciding how best to spend my time (and money)! (Note from Nate: Hope also plays upright bass and mandolin for the church orchestra and helps me with sermons on the Minor Prophets by typing up comparisons of the Dead Sea Scrolls with the Hebrew Masoretic Text.)



Prayer Corner

- Praise God for the births of 2 more grandsons this spring: **Iain** to Josh & Jandi, and **Jeremiah** to Irene & Jacen. Please pray for Lillian & Dalton, Magali & Amos, and Rachel & Beni as they come due to give birth soon, and for grace for all our married children as they become parents of many children themselves!
- Praise God that the two soldiers in our church are back safely from their 9-month overseas duty. Pray for our church missions month this August, for the ARTIOS workshop on Biblical Worship that we are hosting for church leaders in central Kansas in October, and for God's guidance as Nate preaches through the minor prophets and seeks to shepherd the congregation with his fellow elders.
- Please pray for good health for our church. We have had an extended chicken pox epidemic which disrupted many families' ability to attend worship services all summer! Pray also for God to provide healing, guidance, and care for Nate's painful jaw and back and for Paula's gallbladder.
- Pray for God's blessings and guidance on daughter **Hope** (see Kid's Corner)!

