

Growing Season

Winter isn't usually a time associated with growing things, but it sure is for our church! Last Sunday I got to do my first Book-of-Acts-style household baptism, and a half-dozen new households will be joining our church over the coming month or so!

This influx of new folks has maxed out the seating capacity of our church building (which we only just purchased last year), so we are seeking God's guidance concerning what to do to accommodate more parishioners. Please pray for the congregational meeting coming up soon where we will be discussing options and charting a course forward.

Meanwhile another exciting ministry opportunity has emerged as a Puerto Rican pastor has proposed starting a Spanish-speaking church at our building! I have been praying for years for God to raise up church-planters to reach the growing Hispanic population in Manhattan, but our elders need wisdom to know if this is the right one to partner with.

Meanwhile, the ARTIOS workshop on Biblical Worship, which we hosted for local church leaders this fall, went very well – thanks for praying for that! Pray that these ARTIOS workshops will effectively equip church leaders, as we need a growing number of leaders to match the growth of the church!



Son Jed visits with kids on the lawn after church.

Computer drawing of how we could expand our church building.

Nate got to baptize a whole family! (Pray for these new believers!)

The other way we baptize: Nate with grandson Nathaniel!

Family Health News

Thanks for praying for healing after my (Nate's) back injury; it's completely healed – Praise the Lord! On the other hand, we're several months into treatments for my jaw pain and still not seeing relief, so let's pray for that now!

Paula finally took the plunge in September to get her gallbladder removed after a decade of symptoms. She enjoys showing off the video of it being dissected, and she is feeling much better now with it out.

Paula's **mom**, on the other hand, is still recovering from a hard fall during our Reformation Day party. She came out from NC to visit us for a week, but gets to stay for a couple of months until she recovers enough to travel back home. Please pray for her!

On more positive health fronts, two more grandbabies were safely delivered: **Brigid** to (son) Amos & Magali, and **Nathaniel** to (daughter) Lillian and Dalton. It's good to see their families thriving after these births!



We took Jed & Maggie to Dallas where Paula got her surgery.

Paula with new grand Brigid!

Hope, Nate, & Peter at a folk music session in St. Mary's.

Paula & the kids-at-home at a friend's masquerade ball.

Son Josh & kids visiting Paula's Mom @ hospital.

Kid's Corner: Aletheia

What's up! I am enjoying school a lot more now, especially knowing that I've got only one year of high school to go, so I'm eager to learn as much as I can! One of my favorite subjects is human biology, seeing how incredibly God has designed us and how to take good care of what He has gifted us. In my devotions with God, I am reading through the Bible in a year, in chronological order, and it is cool to see how all the things throughout the Bible tie together. A hobby I have taken up recently-ish is hair cutting and styling. I mainly cut guy's hair. Jed says he "strongly dislikes" when I make him look stylish,

but I can get away with it anyway! To practice girls' hair, I purchased a mannequin head, which has been fun and helpful! I continue to adore my cello, playing it every opportunity I can get and even teaching lessons sometimes. Betsy and I had two concerts this season with the Manhattan Youth Symphony, one of which was with a youth choir and ballet, where we accompanied from the stage pit! It was a very neat experience. Another thing I love doing is making pizza – learning the science of it and the art of tossing the dough. **Pray that I can finish high school strong and continue to grow in my relationship with my Lord and Savior.** 🙌



Merry Christmas Music!

Look for our upcoming releases on streaming platforms:

- * "Night Of Our Dear Savior's Birth" (by Beni, sung by Grace Anne)
- * "Christmas Morning Traditions REMIX" (Hip hop artist 7V3N & rapper Jesse Brinson turned Nate's *puirt à beul* into a dance remix!)
- * "You Are" (by Grace Anne, Aletheia on Mrs. McCowan's cello)
- * And don't forget our 2022 **Kansan Celts Christmas** album!



- Praise God for the births of grandson **Nathaniel** to Lillian & Dalton, and granddaughter **Brigid** to Amos & Magali! That brings the grand-kids with feet on the ground up to 24! Pray for the safe birth of our next one coming soon to Beni & Rachel!
- Praise God for bringing healing from Nate's back injury and from Paula's cholecystitis. Please pray for healing for **Nate's** jaw and for Paula's **Mom** as she recovers from her fall. Pray also for 18-month-old granddaughter **Jane** and her family, as she is experiencing some new setbacks from her genetic disorder and treatment.
- Pray for healthy discipleship of new families joining our church, for God's guidance on church building expansion and on a Hispanic church-plant, as well as God's provision of more elders to shepherd our growing church flock.
- Pray for God's blessings and guidance on daughter **Aletheia** (see Kid's Corner)!



Our household after singing in the Flint Hills Masterworks choir concert.

