



Paula & Nate's 32nd wedding anniversary, Nate discipling daughters Hope & Aletheia, Half of Nate's Hebrew class studying at a coffee shop (yes, they're all our daughters: Lillian, Hope, Aletheia, Betsy), Church praying for a member moving away.

Paula and I recently attended a conference designed for pastors of small churches. We wear a lot of hats, so a conference tailored for our situation was particularly helpful and encouraging. Here is a sample of activities from our last six months:

- Men's **bi-weekly breakfast-study** using Timothy Wittmer's book *The Shepherd Leader In The Home*
- **Weekly elder meetings**, including monthly discussion of *Shepherd Leader*; also by Timothy Wittmer
- **Counseling** (vocational/premarital/marriage/family)
- Teaching **weekly Biblical Hebrew class** to 6 students
- **Translating 1 & 2 Samuel and preaching** every week from that, also **preparing music and rehearsing** the church worship band and orchestra every week
- **Monthly mentoring** of two local pastors, **quarterly workshops** with a regional Rural Church Network, **bi-weekly prayer meetings** with local pastors' group
- **Reading** helps me shepherd the flock better. I highly recommend these recent reads:
 - *Why Marriages Succeed or Fail* (Gottman),
 - *The Meaning of Marriage* (Keller),
 - *The Bruised Reed* (Sibbes)
 - *Durable Trades* (Groves)
 - *Resolving Conflict* (Priolo)
 - *Grace And Glory* (Vos)
- Learning about **commercial mold remediation** when mold was found in the hall we rent for church
- **Adding two new family units to church membership** and waving goodbye to three others; also two family units have temporarily stopped attending due to mold concerns
- Carrying on the **ministry of prayer** personally
- Dealing with **issues that have ruptured multiple relationships** in the church
- **Hospitality ministry** means parishioners over for meals and meetings multiple times a week; also our **childbirth education classes** bring even more families into our home!

Recent family happenings in addition to the above:

- Five of our kids continued **jaw-expansion** orthodontic treatment for sleep apnea problems.
- Aletheia (15) got her **learner's permit** and played in her first **cello recital**, and Hope (17) got her **driver's license** and played in her first **piano recital**.
- Praise God for providing a **used minivan** to replace our car which had become too unreliable to drive.
- Praise God for providing a **new roof** and a company that allowed us to do part of the labor to work off the deductible.
- **Lillian's wedding** (April 9) was lovely, and God provided many capable and cheerful helpers. We are grateful!!!



Lillian's marriage to Dalton is the biggest family news this year! After a honeymoon in the Ozarks, they settled down a couple of blocks from Amos & Magali, and a couple of miles from us. Here is the whole gang – 12 children, 7 in-laws, 15 grandchildren.

Now Online!



Cover of our 2007 album released for the first time on music platforms at the beginning of this year! (You can support us by listening to it on your favorite app!), Family orchestra practice (we're gearing up to record a Kansas Celts Christmas album over Memorial Day!), Aletheia at her cello recital, Family band performing at a local homeschool co-op.

Kid's Corner: Margaret Prudence



Making pizza all by herself!

This year I turned 9 years old. Since my last kid's corner I was a flower girl for two more siblings' weddings and have one more nephew and seven more nieces. I'm getting a lot of practice in taking care of kids! I love reading and doing crafts in my free time. Right now I'm reading *Winter With the Moodys* and the *Little House* series.

I've recently started doing scratch art, and I've also started making up codes. I've been learning to play violin and am playing it in a little orchestra that my big sister Hope has started with us kids at home. Please pray that I will continue to grow into a woman of God!



Maggie, our 12th-born, with 3 nieces.

Mission Trip to Belize – June 4-13!



Nate and our daughters Lillian & Hope, along with another father, Andy, and his daughter Grace, plan to visit a missionary family (the Calls) we know in Belize, near the border of Mexico. Although Belize is very "Christianized," the number of folks who have heard the Gospel of Grace is vanishingly-small, so I have been asked to share my "Gospel-Centered Living" sermons in three churches (who share one local pastor!). We are also planning to put on a Vacation Bible School for these churches.



- Pray for God's blessing on each of our married children: **Josh & Jandi, Beni & Rachel, Amos & Magali, Peter & Hope, Grace Anne & Brian, Irene & Jacen**, and newlyweds **Lillian & Dalton!**
- Pray for **our mission trip to Belize**: health (that all Covid tests will be negative!), strength for two all-nighters of travel, encouragement for the missionaries/local believers, fruitful children's ministry, and clear communication of the gospel as Nate preaches. Also pray for traveling mercies for Paula and the younger kids as they take a cross-country trip to visit Paula's mother.
- Please pray for wisdom for us and our church officers to discern the next steps in healing broken relationships and facilitating spiritual maturity within the church.



Son Peter graduated with an Associate's in Welding Engineering Tech and got a promotion at his job.

