

Overby Odyssey

October 2022

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Hello from Kandern,

These first few months of school have just flown by. We just passed our 3 month mark of being in Germany, we are in week 9 of the school year, and we are starting to feel more settled in Kandern. Lots of great things have happened, and the struggle is still very real. Here are a few highlights (and lows).

Highs:

- We bought a car. With used car prices being so high, we had to settle for a 7 seater. It is a 2010 Seat Alhambra, and we are excited to be able to drive places as a whole family.
- Spiritual Emphasis week and class trips went really smoothly at BFA and were meaningful experiences for the students.
- BFA cross-country has had a great season, with both the boys and girls teams qualifying for division 2 European Championships. I (Scott) will travel with the team this Friday October 22, and the race is Saturday October 23 in Baumholder.
- Holly has been enjoying rehearsals and preparation for the middle school play, "The Lion Witch and the Wardrobe." Holly is playing Lucy, so it is a huge honor and responsibility. Performances are November 3, 4, and 5th. (Heather will be running ticket sales and the cast party.)
- School is in full swing for all four kids. Stuart loves his school and gets picked up by his chauffeur every morning. Samuel is making friends at CSK, and working hard at learning German as well. Stanley and Holly have been stepping up to the challenge of a new school and new systems, and feeling like they are finding their place in their classes.
- Heather is making new friends and connecting with our neighbors. She is involved in several Bible Studies and book clubs, and has been able to meet with a counselor through Be One Together to help her through all of the life stresses that we have been dealing with. She also got a weekend getaway with two other moms to a French Chateau that hosts missionaries for free.

While there are lots of exciting things happening, we are also dealing with lots of stress and anxiety. Someone pointed out that we really have been in this state of transition since March 2021 when we made the decision to leave the life we knew in Weimar, move to America to raise support, and then move to a



different part of Germany. Here are some of the challenges we have faced.

- Emotional grief in all of these transitions. There are fewer tears now, but we have all had those feelings.
- Our kitchen sink broke. It was an old, ceramic, small, reuleaux triangle, corner sink, and while Heather was washing the crockpot it slipped from her hands and put a large crack in the sink. That was about a month ago, and after a slow process and multiple quotes, the sink and the previously damaged counter should be fixed within the next few weeks. Hopefully our landlord will pick up part of the bill. The lowest quote was over two thousand Euro. Ouch!
- Illnesses. Heather and I are the only ones who have not gotten physically sick (or at least enough to miss work). Every kid, including the cat has been sick at least once these past 6 weeks.
- Bureaucracy and paperwork. Our visa paperwork was submitted nearly a month ago, and then they gave us more paperwork, which needed to be filled out by other people and the passing of papers has just been a slow process. We are still waiting and praying that the paperwork will be completed quickly. We would feel a lot more secure if we had visas in hand.



Thank you for your continued prayers, and supporting us in this journey so that we can minister to the people here in Kandern.

Serving Jesus in Kandern, Germany,
Scott for Heather, Stanley, Holly, Stuart, and Samuel

This photo was taken on a run. Those are the Alps in the background.

