

Overby Odyssey

March 2023

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Wow, so much has happened these past months, and we are so excited about what God is doing in our lives.

January ended with Heather going on two different trips. The first was to Frankfurt for a conference with a dear friend from Weimar. Less than 4 days later, she was on an airplane to Spain for a women's conference with Catalyst International. At that retreat, God restored and encouraged Heather, and she was able to come back to Kandern refreshed and ready for what God has next for us. Unfortunately, what was next was three weeks of everyone in our family getting sick followed by Stuart being home because his German school had a week off. But despite those



setbacks, both Heather and I are seeing God use us at BFA and in the community and we feel that He is just getting started.



Here is a glimpse of the value of BFA and the story of Paul* (name has been changed). Paul's parents served in a Middle Eastern country where his elementary years were spent attending a local school in the local language. After that chapter of their lives ended, the Lord called their family to Europe where Paul then attended another local school in a new language. Him and his parents made the decision for him to attend BFA and live in the dorms so he can get the emotional, social, and academic

care he needed. I have the privilege of teaching Paul and seeing the value of BFA in his life. There are so many students like Paul, where the work we are doing allows the parents to stay in the field and do the work God has called them to.

God is doing so much at BFA, but we have to remember to pray. On Friday mornings I meet with some other men to pray, and this week God put it on my heart to initiate a prayer group for the students as well. At chapel seven students indicated that they would like to be part of a prayer team as we get ready for the High School retreat. So for this past week leading up to the High School Retreat we have been praying for God to move among the students and to start a revival among the student population. So please be praying for the High School retreat March 3-5. One of those students also asked if I would serve as his mentor. He is a Junior and was part of the cross-country team. Pray for wisdom as we meet together and that I can point him more fully to Christ.



Meanwhile, Heather has been making new friends and connections within the German community. When she came back from Spain, she met with the social workers regarding foster care. She will attend five seminars in March. She has also met several of the German moms at Samuel's school, and was invited to a "Stammtisch." It is a time for a group of people to get together and talk. Heather was the only international at this Stammtisch, but it was an opportunity for her to build bridges between the German and International community here in Kandern.



We were also blessed with a visit from Peter and Jen Hibbs from Good Shepherd. They were traveling to Germany to spend time with the different Good Shepherd missionaries in Germany. It was a blessed time with them. They were there when we were officially welcomed as members of the German FEG church we attend. They were also able to see the BFA High School play Pirates of Penzance Sunday afternoon where Heather was playing oboe in the orchestra. On Monday I got to show them around BFA and for them to see first hand what God is doing here. Then on Monday afternoon we took an evening trip to see a French Christian School that we heard of. While we were there we met Christian. After a wonderful conversation and prayer with him, Heather invited him to join us for dinner later in the week. After saying good-bye to Peter and Jen on Tuesday, we welcomed Christian and his friend Manuel to our house on Thursday. While Manuel spoke no English, it was a rich time of fellowship with other believers getting to hear their story and share a bit of ours. We are amazed at how good God is and how he is working all over the world.



For our kids, Stanley is doing really well and really enjoying his group of friends, "the counsel." They are four boys who will take Jake out for a walk, go out for Döner, play Minecraft, and talk about anything and everything. I get to be their leader at the High School Retreat because their small group leader is not able to go.

Holly finished basketball, but was injured for most of the season. She continues to work hard and has a solid group of girl friends at school.

Stuart continues to ask great questions and loves being helpful. He is my shopping buddy whenever I need to go to the store.

Samuel has been struggling a bit with attitudes and when things are not going his way. He is making good friends at school, and even had some counseling at school as a mom came in to talk about the emotions of transition and the emotions they are feeling.



So here are the things to be praying for

- High School Retreat March 3-5.
- For wisdom as I lead the grade 9 boy's small group at the retreat
- High School Service projects to India, Vietnam, Kenya, and Bosnia March 30 – April 7
- Pray for continued connections in the German community
- Pray that we can start a Bible study soon.
- Pray for our Visas to arrive soon.
- Pray for RAs at BFA for next year.



Thank you so much for your faithful prayer and support. Please let us know how we can be praying for you.

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

