

# Overby Odyssey

August 2023

[beonetgether.com/give/scott-and-heather-overby](https://beonetgether.com/give/scott-and-heather-overby)  
[vdm.org/in-verbinding-bleiben/AC561000](https://vdm.org/in-verbinding-bleiben/AC561000)



As we enter August we are thankful for the summer we have had so far. At the beginning of the summer, we desired this to be a summer of Sabbath rest after the stress of the last few years. God was able to provide us that needed rest, and now as we look towards the next school year and the joys and challenges that it will bring, we are thankful for our first summer in Kandern.

The odd thing about this summer is that we have only had two full weeks of the entire family being done with school. Stuart's last day was July 26, while

Stanley and Holly have been out since June 8. But having the two very different schedules has also forced us to not fill up the days with travel, but to take a slower pace. During our German church's summer kickoff (July 23) our pastor talked about four things to make a break meaningful.

1. Rest and Recover
2. Seek and contemplate God
3. Enjoy and celebrate
4. Strengthen and nurture relationships

Here are some ways that we have tried to embrace these (before we even heard the sermon).

1. We have taken time to sit, read a book, watch a movie, and sleep in when possible.
2. At the beginning of the summer we started a New Testament read through with Stanley, Holly, Grandpa Steve, Grandma Sue, and Aunt Sharon. It has been a great way to connect with everyone, especially Stanley and Holly, and talk about what we have been reading. We have also been trying to take time to read some books that teach us more about being a Christ Follower. Some of these include: Crazy Busy, The Exemplary Husband, Gentle and Lowly, and End of Anxiety.
3. We have been able to go on a few day adventures during the summer. We have explored some of the nearby wonders including waterfalls, hikes, and lakes. We have also done some mini-golf, wandern golf, and disc golf with the kids. We have visited the local pool (when it wasn't too cold), gone out for ice cream, and been able to have special treats.
4. Many of the above activities were with our kids and with friends. For me, going for a run with one or both of the younger boys on their bikes has been a huge blessing. While Stuart was still in school, Samuel and I would often take Jake for a walk in the woods and we would have that time together. Inviting friends to go with us on some of our adventures has also been a great way to connect with others.



With my first day of work coming up quickly on August 14 we are excited as old and new staff start arriving in Kandern. One of those new families are our friends the Vixatheps. They are also from Good Shepherd in Oregon and they arrived in Europe August 2. We had the privilege of picking them up from the airport and driving them to their new home in France. Their daughter is one of Holly's best friends, and we are excited to see Michele serving in France and Anouxa will be serving at BFA with me.



As we prepare for the new school year here are some things you can be praying for.

- Peace, strength, and endurance with all of the responsibilities. There is always a lot to do, and it can be hard to get out of summer mode.
- For a successful school year where we can see God move in our lives, our kids lives, and the lives of everyone we minister to at BFA and in the community.
- Upcoming trips and visitors. We have one trip planned for our family, and one for just Heather and I. We will also have a number of house guests over the next few months. Pray for meaningful relationship building in all of those.
- Pray for the continued needs at BFA. There has been some more red tape with the purchase of a new dorm building, and there are still a few departments that are short staffed. Please pray for God to provide, and for wisdom on how to keep moving forward when we don't have the number of desired staff.
- Pray for our housing for the 2024-2025 school year. We are a year out, but now is when conversations start happening about who will be moving at the end of the year and what housing will become available.



Here are our specific needs/desires: in Kandern, 4-5 bedrooms, space to host people, kitchen adequate for our family, Stuart really wants to be close to Penny, and the owner will allow our dog and cat. We have also been talking about the possibility of buying a house in Kandern, so please pray for wisdom in all of those decisions.

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

