

Overby Odyssey

June 2024

beonetogether.com/give/scott-and-heather-overby
vdm.org/in-verbinding-bleiben/AC561000



Summer Greetings from Kandern, Germany,

And just like that, another school year is completed. The last 6 weeks of school felt like an amusement ride that kept getting faster and faster as we approached the final launch. That launch culminated at the BFA awards night and graduation, which both happened two weeks ago. Now, we have a chance to sit down and reflect over the past 6 weeks and the entire school year.

Big picture. As we hear more and more stories, we see more and more of the significance of our work here. So many students, who come from locations that I cannot mention here, (but yes “that” country) and the importance for their academic, social, and emotional well-being, and the value of the ministry their parents are doing. At the awards night we got to hear about the heart and character of so many students. We have your typical school awards for athletics, music, acting, and academics, but we also have the Faithful Student, Barnabas Encouragement, Personal Growth, Philemon (heart for sharing their faith), James Perseverance, Pursuit of Truth, and Outstanding Citizen awards. For each award excerpts from staff recommendations are read on why these students won these awards. Each teacher also gets to acknowledge the top student in each of their classes. Since I teach lower level classes, it is fun to see students who typically don't win any math awards be recognized for being the top student in our class.

Coaching this past year for me (Scott) has been extremely rewarding. I have been able to mentor several of the guys on the team, and we have a core group of Freshman and Sophomores (soon Sophomores and Juniors) who are really excited about running and glorifying Christ in this avenue. As I coached the distance runners for track, I was able to get to know them even more and pour into their lives. Heather and I hosted the distance crew for a spaghetti dinner the night before our home meet, and all of the students were so thankful for the time. At the end of the track season one of the dads commented to me that I am his son's hero, and his son is so excited to be coached by me over the next three years. Next year I will be co-head coaching for cross-country, so please be praying that I will be able to handle the extra responsibilities that comes with that.

Foster care has been really busy this year. We have had five foster babies this year. We had Nosa for one week in October. Then we had Sami for four months from November to February. Then we got three on May 2, Sofia, Diane, and Nico. That was the infamous weekend that our entire family (except for Nico) got really sick. Sofia and Diane were only with us for five days, but Nico is still in our home. Please pray that a long term home will be found for him soon, as we leave to visit the USA on July 2nd. Every child and situation is unique, and every goodbye is hard. Please be praying for wisdom on when to say yes, when to say no, and how we balance foster care with the ministry at BFA.

Our children are a huge part of our ministry, and it has been a special year. Holly chose to be baptized last December. This spring Stanley decided that he also wanted to be



baptized. On June 16, I had the privilege to baptize Stanley in the Kandern river (stream) with one of Stanley's mentors. These past eight months have been an incredible time of spiritual growth for him. It is a joy as a parent to see your kids seeking the Lord. Holly graduated from eighth grade, and has a little bit of anxiety as she prepares for high school. At the middle school awards night she was honored for her math class and also for choir. As a special tribute to eighth graders, each student comes on stage one at a time and a tribute is read about and to them by a teacher. It was a special evening to hear the wonderful things they had to say about Holly. Stuart continues to be a joy, loves going to school, and playing with friends at recess. Samuel is our sensitive one. He loves his friends at school, but does struggle integrating with the German speaking kids.

Now that it is summer, our eyes are turned to our time in the USA this summer. It will be a crazy full 5 weeks. Here is our general itinerary.

- July 2 - July 6: Orlando to spend a few days with my Uncle, Aunt, cousin, and his family.
- July 7 - 11: Bend to be with Heather's family and some friends.
- July 11 - 28: Gresham, here is where we hope to connect with many of you.
 - July 21 We will have a time to share at GSCC after the second service.
- July 28 - Aug 2: Bellingham, WA for Overby cousin camp
- Aug 3 - Aug 4 Gresham for our final weekend
- Aug 4 - Aug 5: Germany return flight.

During our time in the USA we want to see as many of you as possible, but we understand that this desire will not be possible due to our limitations of time. If you are able to make it to the July 21 share time at Good Shepherd, that would be wonderful, and we hope to have a few other meetups during our time in Oregon.

One of our goals during our time in the USA is to top off some of our monthly support. Due to life changes and a variety of reasons we have lost some supporters during these past two years. We are hoping to raise another \$1000 in monthly support. If you have thought of joining our giving team, but never have, now would be a great time to do that. If you know of someone with a heart for missionary kids, and supporting their parent's ministries by supporting their children, then please feel free to forward this update to them and we would love to get in touch with them. Specifically, we are hoping for one new supporter for \$200 a month, 3 at \$100, 6 at \$50, and 8 at \$25 a month. We are also looking for a special project donor to help purchase team shirts for the cross country team. They would be shirts that would be checked out as team gear, reused every year, and serve as a gift to Senior participants in the cross-country program. For this we are looking for a special one-time gift of \$500.

Thank you again for your prayers and financial support. We are so grateful to be able to serve where we serve. We look forward to seeing many of you this summer. Please let us know how we can be praying for you.

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



Family photo on Mother's Day



Backyard campfire with the big kids.



Stanley's Baptism in the Kandern



Holly's 8th grade graduation



Our current foster baby



Outdoor bedtime reading



Stanley's passion



Heather and her crew



Ice cream with Dad



BFA class of 2024

