

Overby Odyssey

May 2026

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Hello Friends and Family,

We are nearing the end of the school year and it has been a fast paced ride. I, Scott, have started this update twice, and then before the editing could be finished, life moved on and many of the topics became outdated. As we near the end of our fourth year in Kandern, here are some updates on what has been happening.



Have you ever found yourself repeating the same prayer to the point that it has just become rote and you forget the magnitude of what you are praying? Recently, I have found myself doing that by starting many of my prayers with, "Thank you God for your faithfulness..." But when you stop to think about it, it is such a profound, deep, and life-changing concept. God is faithful. Not because of what we have done, or despite what we have done. He is faithful, yesterday, today, and forever. And we are called to remember his faithfulness. To look back and see how he has worked, provided, and led. To remember the great things he has done.



This month, BFA celebrated its 70th anniversary and actively remembered what God has done. That has been the theme this whole year at BFA and it is exciting to be part of God's faithful work over the decades at BFA. In our short time at BFA we have seen the entire triple dorm project go from "What are we going to do to provide for future housing for the dorms," to the ribbon cutting ceremony. During the celebration, former staff and students have been visiting the school and remembering God's faithfulness to BFA and the Church as a whole and it is such a joy to be part of this slice of BFA history. We also hosted a thank you dinner for the local Kandern community. It was a very well received event that hopefully strengthened bridges to our host country. Currently, God has provided 91% of the funds for the entire project. If you would like to help us cross the finish line, you can give at: bfacademy.de/give

As for life for our family, things are busy. We are 3 weeks away from Stanley's graduation and it is hard to find a free moment to catch our breath. Stanley celebrated his 18th birthday, and is both anticipating and dreading the changes that are quickly approaching. He and a guy friend did an overnight hiking trip, he has led multiple worship nights in our home, and has been given many more responsibilities in his church's worship team. We love that God has made him into a worshiper and a worship leader. Please pray for him as he prepares to launch and for clarity for his future plans. He and his girlfriend of almost 2 years are also thinking about what the future holds for them

and are doing a great job seeking the Lord in their relationship. Here are some specific needs he has for when we arrive in the states

- Clarity on his internship at Good Shepherd
- A job (he is interested in construction or manual labor)
- A car
- Friends and mentors



Holly is now 16 and we love seeing how she is growing in her faith in and life. She continues to lead a lunch Bible Study with some of her classmates, and even led her small group's Bible Study one evening. She is in the beginning stages of a dating relationship with a young man in her class, and it is fun to watch our little girl growing up.



Samuel is 10 years old and almost done with his time at CSK, the bilingual elementary school, and will start at BFA this fall. In Germany elementary school ends at 4th grade, and middle school begins in 5th. He is excited for the transition and is looking forward to actually being at BFA.

13-year-old Stuart continues to thrive at his German school, although he is sad when he sees Samuel having play dates with his friends while he does not have many. He is also no longer a little boy, and is in the middle of puberty. We are starting to dream and talk about what is next for him, and hoping that he will be able to find a place at BFA where he can serve and help.



We still have our foster baby, Lio. He has been growing wonderfully, is healthy, and smiles and interacts with us. He is 5 months old now. We still don't know what his future holds, which can cause emotional whiplash for our family (especially Heather). Please pray for clarity for his future home.

On a sadder note, we had to say goodbye to our Golden retriever Jake this past month. He was twelve and a half years old and it was getting increasingly difficult for him to get up and down and he was progressively losing his appetite. There were tears and sadness in our home, but we are also thankful for the little extra breathing room we have with one less responsibility. We have had Jake for nearly three

and a half years, and he was the perfect dog for our family during these transition years to Kandern.

Here are some updates from our last update. Thank you so much for praying.

- BFA Language 3 Trips: Everything went smoothly and they were a great success. Holly enjoyed her time in France and is growing in her French language abilities. She will do AP French next year.
- Heather helped lead another women's retreat with our German church. 21 ladies attended and it was a cherished time for everyone.
- High School Retreat: It was a powerful weekend and God was moving through the worship and message. There were two hospital visits, but otherwise the retreat was great.
- Track season is over. While we don't have many athletes who qualified for championships, it has been an amazing season of growth and relationships.
- Service Project Trips: The Uganda team lost their luggage, but otherwise the trips were hugely successful. Holly cherished her time in Romania and felt that she was able to be God's hands and feet while there.
- Our visas have arrived. Praise the Lord!!!



Please also be praying for several major events coming up at BFA:

- End of year Athletics Awards Night (I will be presenting for Cross-Country Awards)
- End of year exams
- End of year Academic Awards Night (I will be presenting for an award)
- Stanley's Graduation: June 12
- July 4, we fly to Oregon!



Current Prayer Requests and Needs:

- Our van broke down last weekend and it will be too much to repair. We are currently without a vehicle and need to buy a new one.
- Pray for healing as I hurt my back playing four square with some middle schoolers.
- For Lio and his future home.
- For meaningful connection during these last weeks of school
- A van for our time in Oregon (July 2026).
- A car and employment for Stanley (beginning August 2026).
- Wisdom as we explore the possibility of buying a house in Kandern. If this is God's will, pray that the right house at the right price would become available.
- Continued funding for the BFA Dorm Project – bfacademy.de/give
- New staff members for BFA – bfacademy.openapply.com



Special Giving Items

This summer we are hoping that God will increase our monthly financial support team, so please be praying for conversations with potential supporters.

We also have a couple of special items that we are looking for donors for

- Scott and Cross-Country
 - Coaching online training \$250
 - Cross-Country Shirts restock \$250
 - Cross-Country Duffle Bags \$500
- New to us used Car:

Contact Information

Please note: our Skype number is no longer active. The best ways to reach us are email, Google Chat, Zoom, or WhatsApp.

- Heather: +49 176 5568 4874
- Scott: +49 176 4524 6614
- U.S. number (call or text): +1-503-427-8314

If you'd like to join our WhatsApp prayer group, send us a message and we'll add you.

As always, thank you for your continued support. We truly couldn't do this without your prayers and financial partnership. We're finishing a meaningful season—wrapping up our final year with Stanley at home while preparing for new adventures ahead—and we're grateful to walk it with you. Please let us know how we can be praying for you as well.

Serving Him in Germany and supporting missions around the world,
Scott (for Heather, Stanley, Holly, Stuart, and Samuel)

