

Stepling Tamily

Faith Baptist Church

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Dear Praying Friends,

Thank you for your prayers and financial support over the past two months. The holidays were very busy for us with activities here in Elita and at the church in Krasnoyarsk. As many of you may remember from years past, the traditional date for celebrating Christmas in Russia is the seventh of January. However, most Baptist churches also celebrate Christmas on the twenty-fifth of December as well. As a result, the churches here will often have their "Church family" Christmas service on the twenty-fifth of December. Then on the seventh of January a service is held with a greater emphasis on getting lost family members and visitors under the preaching of the Gospel.

We thank you for your prayers for our children. Just before finals, Ryan and Timothy both contracted the virus and ended up having to take all their finals online while in quarantine. After finals were complete, they were able to spend some time with their sister in California before flying to Texas on Christmas day. With Beka safely back in Kansas, the boys enjoyed spending two weeks with friends whose parents attended college with my wife and me. A big thanks to the Consford and Brignall families in Center, Texas, for hosting our boys and including fishing, range time, and a bit of farm work. The boys enjoyed attending Central Baptist Church in Center, Texas, where the Consford clan faithfully attends. Pastor Danny Dodson has been faithfully serving there for decades. This is the same church that sent out missionary Bob Hughes to the Philippines so many years ago. While my brother and I were attending Bible college some of the best memories we have were of spending the holidays at Dr. Ron Bragg's forty acres in Carthage, Missouri. The lessons we learned from Bro. Bragg are still with us all these years later.

Please continue to pray for our building situation. We delayed sending out this letter in hopes that we would be able to share news of closing on the building. Unfortunately, the red tape is very thick. Dee and I met with a good Christian lawyer this week who understands our situation and the unique legal requirements. She is putting together a list of items the current owner must change in regards to various permit and safety documents before we will be able to move forward with an offer. Please pray that we will receive good legal counsel and that everything will go according to God's plan.



Your Servants for Jesus' Sake,

1 Peter 2:21

Our boys singing a special with the Consford/Brignall kids.