



**May 29, 2023**

**God of Miracles**

**HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY!**

### **MINISTRY & FAMILY UPDATES**

We had so many prayer requests for this month. Some of them we shared with you, and others we just prayed for privately. Humanly speaking, some seemed impossible, but "nothing is impossible with God" (Luke 1:37). Why...oh, why...do we still doubt the plans He has for us, when time after time He proves Himself sovereign in all things, perfecting His plan in and through us! Check out the miracles God has performed this month for us:

- In case you missed the news, we came home to FINALLY receiving Amalia's birth certificate in the mail after nearly a year-long process of too many phone calls and emails to count as well as two trips from IN to PA's Orphan's court.
- Tori had a recent minor surgery for a suspicious looking mole, and the results came back benign. No cancer!
- Frank's name on his social security card has never matched his birth certificate. After 40 years, he had his first problem because of this difference when trying to acquire his diver's license in Indiana. Since we didn't want anything to keep us from getting our visas, he pursued getting the social security card corrected. We weren't sure what this entailed as some said we may need to get an attorney. Thankfully, the process was much more simple as Frank had to simply walk into a SS office, show his birth certificate, fill out a form and his new card arrived 2 weeks later in the mail.
- For our visas, three of us needed to have chest x-rays for a TB test. South Africa requires you to have the radiologist who reads the results to sign off on a specific visa form for this. Do you know how difficult it is to get the radiologist to do this when his office isn't in the building where you had the x-rays taken? After emails to our doctors and several phone calls, we acquired the radiologist's phone number. He was so kind and quickly filled out the forms for us, dropping them at his office on his day off.
- Every single time Tori posted a piece of furniture on Facebook Marketplace, the item was sold in minutes or just hours. For those of you who have attempted selling on Facebook, you know that this is a HUGE miracle. ;)
- Tori and the three boys had to have their passports renewed. We received them back quickly so we could get necessary paperwork ready for our visa

appointment. Also by the grace of God, on Friday, they finished what was a very unique school year traveling around the country nearly non-stop.

- Our visa appointment was scheduled in DC for Monday, July 3, the South Africa Consulate's first available time which worked perfectly with the ending of our cross-cultural training in NC.
- Our home goes on the market this Friday, June 2. It has been an insane 28 days of cleaning, purging, selling, packing and appointments to prep for our upcoming training and visa appointment. We had a small, mostly furniture yard sale at the start of the month, and then Tori sold a few homeschool items at a used curriculum sale this past week. Also recently, our neighborhood ladies' Bible study not only held a 2-day yard sale bringing in nearly \$1,500 to go towards our Initial Start-Up Costs, but they also are coming later this week to help us clean the house one final time before showings begin. Family members who live nearby also came to help in the packing!
- Can we just comment on God's impeccable timing for our cross-cultural training?! We were supposed to have completed the training in March, but other meetings made us postpone it to the June session. God knew. We can now clean the house ONE time for showings, and our realtor can do as many Open Houses and showings as she wants while we are gone. That is truly a miracle!

Some of you have asked about our support level and startup costs. If you've been following our story for the past few months, you know we were praying to be at 100% by the end of May. We also let you know in our last update that we still needed about \$28,000 toward our moving and startup needs. Well...our God of miracles has been quite busy with us this past month! We have not only met the goal for 100% support, but with special gifts from churches and individuals this past month, and if we can sell our cars for what we hope to, the final amount needed for our Initial Startup Fund will be completely covered!

NOW do you understand our excitement for miracles this month?! What a faithful, wonderful Savior!



Our final day of school was celebrated at the zoo thanks to a kind church gifting us the tickets! It was a fun day to step away from the chaos at home for a few hours.



[LEFT] Hudson & Zach helped us fill over 11 bags of purged items in one day!  
 [RIGHT] This was just half of the huge garage sale that 16 of Tori's ladies' Bible study friends put together last weekend!

## PRAY FOR US!

- **PRAISES!** This has been a month of praise! See above for details.
- Please pray our home would sell while we are in cross-cultural training during all of June. We hope to close the first week of August.
- Pray we would be ready with all of the necessary paperwork for our visa appointment in DC on July 3, and that our visas would be granted quickly. We hope to move to South Africa in September.

## UPCOMING PLANS

### JUNE:

- House goes on the market June 2!
- 4-Weeks of cross-cultural training as a family in NC

### JULY:

- Visa appointment at the South African Consulate in DC
- Indiana church meetings
- Packing up for the shipping container

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