



July 28, 2023

Almost There!!

MINISTRY UPDATES

Today marks exactly TWO YEARS from when we accepted the call to go to Knysna, South Africa! We then started our support raising efforts on October 1, 2021, and God has worked in remarkable, miraculous ways these past 24 months! Now, we sit on the edge of the incredible ministry God has for our family in the Southern Hemisphere. Thank you for praying us to this point! Please don't stop now!

Visas: We had some excitement around our July 3 visa appointment at the South African embassy in Washington, D.C. As we weren't sure where to park for our Monday morning appointment, we called the office at 9am to get further clarification on this as we drove toward the city from Maryland. We quickly pulled over to pray as they told us they were closed for the July 4th holiday. After politely explaining about being from Indiana and having a scheduled appointment, she asked us to call her back in a few minutes while she checked on some things for us. When we called her back, she informed us that the skeleton staff in the embassy office that day was willing to see us! We praised the Lord for this answer and continued on our way into D.C for our appointment.

Fast forward to Friday of that same week, and Frank received a call that we didn't turn in notarized copies of two of the boys' passports and birth certificates. By the time we called them back to tell them that we did indeed give them the necessary paperwork, they had already mailed the passports back to us in our self-addressed, self-stamped Priority Mail envelopes. However, they were headed to Tori's mom's in DE which is where we thought we'd be by the time we would need our visas. See the picture below for details of the adventurous path one of our passports made.

Once we finally received both passports back to us here in Indiana, we immediately notarized the necessary documents (again) and FedExed the documents back to the embassy where they arrived (according to our tracking number) on Tuesday, July 18. We now just continue to pray and wait for word on whether or not our applications were accepted. Please pray with us about this! **We are specifically praying that we will hear of our visa approval by next Saturday, August 5**-the day we will be leaving Indiana for the eastern US where we will be for the remainder of our time before moving to South Africa.



Tori's mom received one of the passports and mailed it on to us safely. The second passport, however, was missing for 3 days where the USPS didn't even know where it was. Finally arriving in a ripped, wet envelope, it truly was a miracle that the passport was dry and safe! God had protected it for us!

Packing! Packing! Packing! We have had sweet friends from Tori's neighborhood ladies' Bible study provide meals and offer moving day cleaning help. Then families from our sending church and other friends have provided more meals and childcare so that we can be busy about packing, purging and selling items while the kids are having precious memory-making moments before our big move. The mental and physical fatigue from preparing for an overseas move is HUGE, but **our God has been so faithful to give just enough strength for each day** and sound sleep at night to recharge us for the next day's tasks.



[TOP LEFT] Hudson & Zach had a last-minute invite to join a local friend's church for a fun week at summer camp. [TOP RIGHT] Amalia & Nate spent a fun time at an awesome park with one of our sending church friends. [BOTTOM LEFT] Exploring creek beds and hiking with cousins and church friends on a hot, summer day. [BOTTOM RIGHT] Fun on a golf cart out on an Indiana farm with sweet friends.



Communication: Please note that we had to temporarily shut down our public ministry Facebook page due to the amount of extra work it was taking to delete spam and inappropriate comments from strangers. We will let you know if we are able to set up a more private group once settled in South Africa.

The best way to reach us once in Knysna will be through:

- EMAIL: fraustos4southafrica@hotmail.com
- WHATSAPP: <https://www.whatsapp.com/> (texting, calls and video calls)
- FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/tori.frausto/> (Tori's page)

FAMILY UPDATES

Answers to Prayer: With all of the moving prep, there are so very many details! One of them was selling a lot of our larger items, like our washer, dryer and lawn mower. We waited as long as we could to sell them since we still needed to use them in these last few days. Let me tell you what God did this week!

Not only did God sell both of these bigger items the same day Tori posted them online, but one of our lovely neighborhood friends bought the washer and dryer and insisted we keep them until right before we moved. This was a huge blessing and answer to prayer as with 4 kiddos, we will need to do laundry up until the day we leave!

As for the mower, Frank had been praying that the Lord would bring someone along to share the gospel with during this time of transition. He was able to share a little about why we were moving to South Africa with the gentleman who came to buy the mower. He gave him a tract, explained it would tell him the good news about Jesus Christ and then invited him to reach out again if he wanted to talk further. **Please pray for Mr. Graves to see His need for a Savior.**

New Friendships: After over a year of trying to get together, we finally met the Johns family in person. We had found one another online through an India adoption Facebook group because our daughters, Amalia & Carys, are only weeks apart in age and both from Mumbai. Both of our families came home from India within months of each other, and we quickly became online friends, even meeting monthly for a virtual Bible study. What a special time we had together!



[LEFT to RIGHT] Frank, Zachary,
Hudson, Kris, Nate, Tori, Amalia,
Vanessa & Carys
(Photo Credit: Kris's drone)

PRAY FOR US!

- **PRAISE!** Our home closed a week earlier than expected this past Monday, July 24, and the owners are still letting us stay (rent-free) in our home until noon on August 5.
- Please pray our visas would be approved by **August 5**.
- Please continue to pray for us in these final days in Indiana. There have already been some emotional goodbyes.

UPCOMING PLANS

JULY:

- Last Sunday & Commissioning Service @ our sending church, Trinity Baptist, this Sunday, July 30. Please go to: <https://www.facebook.com/tbcwestfield> to watch via livestream at 5pm EST or you can also watch it at a later time at the same link.

AUGUST:

- Family Vacation (friends loaned us their vacation condo for some rest before we head to the field)
- Belated birthday celebration with Tori's mom
- Final packing of suitcases for our move, Lord willing in early September

To join our incredible team of financial partners, please click on your desired method of giving below:

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<https://www.ibmglobal.org/donate-by-check>

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https://ibmglobal.denarionline.com/Missionaries/Donate/?missionary=Fra_S



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