



Dear Friends and Family,

Hello Spring (in between snowstorms)! It's Colorado, people! We love where we live and we love the variety of weather, pretty much all year long. We have enjoyed seeing things "come to life" again and anticipate some wonderful landscapes this summer. This summer will be one of growth for our family, at least by one. We are expecting grandbaby number nine (grandson number four) in August from our daughter Jaella and her husband Chad. Their two-year old daughter Piper is so excited, as are we. This month we plan to see all of Joe's sisters and his mom, in Nebraska, on our way to visit the Wisconsin and Illinois kids and grandkids. We had a camping and fishing adventure with the Colorado kids in May, so fun! We always love spending time with family.



It has been an honor and privilege to be able to visit so many Awana clubs these past few months (unrestricted) and attend some closing ceremonies, several with Awana Citation Achievers. It is a sweet thing to see clubbers celebrated for their achievements knowing God's Word has been hidden in their hearts. Way to go clubbers (and leaders and parents)! We are seeing the fruit of the labor of disciple-makers who have stood firmly on God's Word in this wicked and perverse generation. The Church truly is the light in these dark times, and we need to let our light shine before men so that they may see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

In early April, we were able to attend Journey Summit in Springfield, Missouri. There were 34 Awana Citation Achievers celebrated. Scholarships were given to those who won their categories. This is the Church and its future, disciples sold out for Jesus ready to impact their world for Christ! They testify of what God is doing in their lives.

We received a letter from a second grader recently that said: "Memorizing verses is easy at the beginning and hard at the end. This is my last year in Sparks. Thank

you for helping kids learn about Christ. He took away my sins. Jesus is my Savior.” How precious! Parents and leaders, you are making an impact that will affect eternity! We cannot emphasize enough the importance of loving, caring adults taking the time to disciple children and teens to help them stand firmly on the truth of God’s Word. It is becoming more and more evident that there is a battle for the souls of children.

Romans 8:38,39 “For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Awana Ministry Conference is happening in-person on August 20<sup>th</sup> at Applewood Baptist Church in Wheat Ridge, Colorado. Woohoo!!! We are excited to have this event back and look forward to seeing so many of you there. It has been way too long since we have had an AMC and we can’t wait! Thank you for praying for us as we prepare for this, and as we train new leaders this summer. God has kept us safe and our vehicle running as we have traveled this year, what a blessing! We always love to hear from you and appreciate all you do for us and the Awana ministry here in Colorado.

We hope to see a whole lot more of you in the year ahead!

In Christ alone,

*Joe and Jill Cook*



**BOLDERBOLDER Race**  
40,000 people  
participated