



**December 27, 2022**

### **A New Year Full of Hope**

"The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad."  
Psalm 126:3

#### **MINISTRY UPDATE**

Even though we are excited about getting to South Africa, we have often said, "We don't want to waste this time of pre-field ministry." As we look back on this past year, we can see so many lessons that the Lord has taught us through it all! We'd like to share some of these with you:

1. **God's Preservation:** The most exciting part of this past year was hearing the testimonies of long-time friends and new friends as they shared of how God pursued them in spite of themselves to bring them to salvation. We never grow tired of hearing of a changed life because of what Christ has done for us! He has certainly preserved us this year as well in many ways, but we especially praise the Lord for bringing our youngest son to Christ in 2022. Salvation is truly a gift from God (Ephesians 2:8-9)!

2. **God's Protection:** The Lord has kept us safe through thousands and thousands of miles of driving and flying as we visited 53 different churches (some more than once) and countless individuals within 15 states to present our passion and God's calling to Knysna. In all of that travel, we only had one cracked windshield and a 2-hour delay for our most recent trip to the northeast due to the car not starting. We also were protected from three very close calls for serious accidents. The Lord truly has been gracious, and we can relate to the Israelites as they finally entered Canaan and the Lord says, "Behold, I send an angel before you to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared" (Exodus 23:20).

3. **God's Provision:** We have seen how God uses fellow brothers and sisters in Christ to show us how much He truly cares for us. He has on many occasions this year provided exactly what we needed for repairs, expenses, clothes, food and more--above what we could ask or think. Our faith has been strengthened time and time again through His provision in the great and small. We truly have seen our God "supply all [our] need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19).

As 2022 wraps up, let's remember all God has done for us and look forward, with excitement and hope, at the new year ahead, for He will continue to do great things! Thank you for your prayers for us!

## 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS SUPPORT UPDATE:



Last month, we shared that **we are praying for 12 new regular monthly partners** for the month of December. We knew this was a big ask, but we serve an immeasurable God. As of the date of this newsletter, we have received half or our goal at **6 new regular monthly partners!** We praise the Lord for this as it has **brought our support to at least 62%** (this will increase once we hear the exact giving amounts from a couple of these new donors)!

The month isn't over! If you've been on the fence about joining our prayer and support team, it would be such an encouragement to our hearts to see you become a regular monthly partner at any amount and be counted toward one of the **remaining 6** for which we are praying.

All gifts are tax-deductible through our mission board, IBMGlobal. Just click on the button below for the option you prefer. Please note that there is a small fee taken out of our support to pay credit card or bank card fees. THANK YOU for considering joining our support team!

- Giving through the mail: <https://www.ibmglobal.org/donate-by-check>
- Giving online: [https://ibmglobal.denarionline.com/Missionaries/Donate/?missionary=Fra\\_S](https://ibmglobal.denarionline.com/Missionaries/Donate/?missionary=Fra_S)

## **FAMILY UPDATE**

December was full of school and doctor's and dentist's appointments. Nate, our 6-year old, had tonsil & adenoid surgery on the Monday before Christmas. He has had a tough recovery in the past week dealing with extreme pain and then a double ear infection on top of it all. Once everything heals, we hope he will be able to breathe through his nose for the first time in years.

We also enjoyed making some special memories together as a family as we anticipate this being our last Christmas in the States before moving. As we continue cleaning out our home in preparations for South Africa, we decided to replace Christmas presents for the kids with experiences around our area. We were able to enjoy a fun Christmas light show, a Christmas play, an 5-story indoor playground and a few days away with just the six of us. It was definitely a month to remember!

We also enjoyed fellowshiping with our sending church in Indiana this month before heading to Delaware for a short time at Tori's mom's for Christmas. Despite Nate's pain and a couple of kiddos having fevers, it has been a sweet memory-making time

together. It was also a blessing to hear my mom sing "Oh, Holy Night" at her church's Christmas service and to enjoy a few slower days with her and Tori's oldest brother, Chad.

**HOUSE UPDATE:** We specifically asked the Lord to make it very clear if we were to rent our home in Indiana rather than sell. As always, our faithful God answered. Just before Christmas, our HOA board denied our request to rent our home, so we will be putting it back on the market later this year. We are thankful for the Lord's clear direction in this!

[LEFT] The best part of surgery for Nate was lots of popsicles!  
[RIGHT] Christmas morning at Tori's Mom's house.



## PRAY FOR US!

- **PRAISE!** The Lord enabled our car to start after a 2-hour delay when trying to leave Indiana before the expected blizzard swept through right before Christmas.
- **PRAISE!** Six new regular monthly partners so far this month! Please pray that even more will join our team before the month's end.
- Pray for a very busy season of meetings and training coming up--for safety, continued provision, good health and full support for the field. As of right now, we only have one open Sunday without any meetings or training between now and the end of April.

# UPCOMING MEETINGS

Are we coming your way? If you'd like to see us and hear more about our ministry vision and financial goals, please reach out to us at [fraustos4southafrica@hotmail.com](mailto:fraustos4southafrica@hotmail.com).

## JANUARY:

- Delaware
- Pennsylvania
- Washington, D.C.
- Indiana

## FEBRUARY:

- Arizona
- Texas
- Virginia

## MARCH & APRIL:

- North Carolina
- March 26-April 21: Cross-Cultural Training as a Family in NC
- Pennsylvania



THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
PRAYERS & SUPPORT!

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

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