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November 2025

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name."

~Ps. 100:4

Dear ,

What a wonderful month in which to thank and praise the Lord, when all the leaves of the trees change colors and the chilly Michigan air brings with it the "banned" word in our house (we call it fluffy white stuff). In all seriousness, it is amazing to see so many facets of creation in a short amount of time. The beauty of creation, though imperfect, reflects the beauty of our perfect Lord and Savior.

God Planned My Trip

At the end of October, I was out in Pennsylvania for a missions conference. I had the privilege of sharing it with three other BMM missionary families, all of whom I had met in July! It was a great time to fellowship and reconnect. The church members and pastor were all so kind and took care of us well. Thank you, Ms. Cheryl, for your willingness to host me in your home. Since it was in Pennsylvania, all the missionaries went to Hershey Chocolate World for a half-day excursion. It was neat to see the history of the company around the town on a trolley tour.

After the conference, I got to meet up with two of the Boyds, my ministry partners in the Netherlands! Daniel and Luke were back in the states for a couple of weeks for recruitment and other various reasons. God worked it out that they were driving through the same general area in Pennsylvania. It was such an encouragement to fellowship with them and pray together. Thank you, Lord!

Because I met up with them in the evening, I needed a place to stay until driving back in the morning. The same town where we ate dinner is where one of my college friends lives! I had not seen her in three years (since her wedding). I finally got to meet her sweet daughter, too! Although a short visit, it was worth every minute.



The second week of November I left for another missions conference in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. It started out with a "Pie Auction,"

all the proceeds being given to the missionaries. I learned a lot from talking with the other missionaries, some on deputation, some veteran missionaries. There was even a family to the jungles of Vanuatu, an island country in the South Pacific. Thank you, Pastor and Mrs. Rader, for opening up your home as well.

I have had three other church meetings this month the past three Sundays. The first was on November 16 in Bronson, MI; the second was on November 23 in Battle Creek, MI; and the third was today in Sand Lake, MI. Once again, it has been a blessing not to have to travel too far for meetings, especially during the cold months. Thank you again to those church members and pastors for welcoming me and allowing me to minister to you.

We experienced a rather heavy snowstorm overnight. Thank you for your prayers for safety! On the way this morning, I got stuck in the snow. As soon as I put my flashers on, a gentleman with a plow on the front of his truck stopped to help me. After several minutes of unsuccessful attempts, another gentleman stopped to help him push me out. Thankfully, that extra hand made the difference, and I was on my way again!



God Packed My Bags

When I left for the trip to the UP earlier this month, God was ready to answer three specific needs. It was just about to start snowing for the first time this season. I failed to realize until I was packing that I had no snow boots; I forgot that mine had worn out last year. When I arrived and another missionary saw that I didn't have boots on, she quickly dug through her things and found a pair that fit me. Praise the Lord.

Somehow, I also forgot to pack any skirts. The church was about thirty minutes away from any shopping center, so I was planning to go shopping on Monday. I was talking to a lady Sunday night, and somehow this topic came up from a completely different conversation. She talked to another lady there whom she thought might have some skirts that I could borrow. The next morning, I collected a bag of not two, not three, but four beautiful skirts that she did not want back because they did not fit anymore. I was humbled and thankful beyond words. To be honest, I doubt I had even voiced a prayer before God answered my needs. It reminded me of Jesus' words in the Sermon on the Mount:

"...for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him."

~Mt. 6:8b

Four Dollars

Finally, the day before I left for the UP, my dad and I were delivering with DoorDash. He was helping me by going in and out of the car because I was sick. One of the orders gave a four-dollar cash tip. I decided to give that to him as a small thank-you. The next day I realized I would need that exact amount to cross the Mackinac Bridge

into the UP. I ended up using my card to pay because I didn't have cash. Normally, that amount would not be a big deal, but I was walking the line of what I had available to me at the time. Skipping ahead to the last night I was at the conference, another lady gave me a personal gift, saying, "It's not much, but I hope it helps." Later when I looked in the envelope, the part that caught my attention were the four one-dollar bills. The money for crossing the Mackinac Bridge again was taken care of. On top of this, because God likes to show Himself faithful over and over, the next week He gave me another DoorDash order with a four-dollar cash tip. The following Sunday (November 23) a lady in the church I was visiting stuck four dollars in my hand. What an amazing God!

Reconciling Relationships

A last-minute arrangement allowed me to join my mom, dad, sister, and niece for a road trip to Southern Illinois to see some extended family. I had not seen my grandma in two years. She is 94 now and doing well for her age. I also got to meet up with my aunt and one of my cousins whom I had not seen in five years. Due to a falling out about four years ago, I had not seen any cousins on my mom's side since then. This summer, God started a major breakthrough in our relationships again and because of the trip we were able to start pursuing active reconciliation. If you experience this situation with family or close friends, don't wait this long to pursue change. If you have, don't tell yourself that it's too late to change! God can take what is broken and recreate beautiful relationships out of it.



Give Thanks to God

In this season of Thanksgiving, I am grateful for the time I got to spend with my family from Michigan and New York. The time went by so fast this week. I am thankful to watch it grow and blossom into more little families. On another note, the funeral for my church's pianist and secretary was held on November 20. It was a celebration of her life and that of her Savior, and the gospel was given. I pray that you all had a blessed Thanksgiving with family and friends. May we never forget the One to whom we should be thankful!



Praises

- Safe travels home to Michigan, the UP, and Southern Illinois
- Encouraging meetings with churches and the Boyds
- Another supporting church and individual
- Amazing people in the body of Christ to stay with during travels (again!)
- New beginnings to familial relationships

Prayer Requests

- Safe travels across Michigan in the winter weather
- Comfort and salvation for my aunt Janet (still)
- Reliance on God's strength
- Meetings scheduled in December, next year **(if you know of any churches looking for missionary guests, I would be happy to have you pass along their information!)**



In Christ,

Abigail Lucero

BMM Appointee to the Netherlands

abigailtothenl.org

abigailtothenl@gmail.com

517-897-7303

Baptist Mid-Missions

bmm.org



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