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April-May 2026

"Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;"

~Col. 4:2

"The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit."

~Ps. 34:18

Dear ,

I apologize for not sending out a letter for last month. Thank you to those of you who reached out to me wondering where it was! It means a lot to know that you are reading and intentionally praying.

April - Nebraska and Deaf Events

During the second week of April, I had the opportunity to go out to Nebraska for the NARBC Bible Conference. A handful of churches participated, and potential future contacts were made. I also got to hang out with David and Hannah Alexander (BMM - Peru), although we forgot to take any pictures! A big thank you to Pastor Rittmiller and family and Park Lane Baptist who hosted me throughout the weekend and allowed me to share my ministry with them.

Because I had a sparse schedule in April when it came to actual church meetings, I decided to make the most of it and continue to improve my ASL knowledge and skills. I attended the ASL Silent Weekend just about an hour from my house. It felt so weird not to talk for an entire two days; however, when it was over, it felt weird *to* talk again! It was burdensome, though, spiritually. So many people who are getting involved in the Deaf community as interpreters are confused about their identity. Since the Deaf are so accepting of anyone because that is how they want to be treated as well, it is (I am guessing) a natural fit for those people. More Christians need to be involved in this field because not only do the Deaf need the Lord but also many of the interpreters.

One Deaf man who led a couple of the workshops is originally from Belgium (which borders the Netherlands). He knows eight languages, so I asked him if he knew NGT (Dutch Sign Language). He doesn't, but he said he still has friends over there that may know of some resources. I'm looking forward to hearing back from him about that!

The next weekend, I traveled to Camp Joy in Wisconsin for a Midwest Deaf Retreat. Around 50 people, both Deaf and hearing, attended. It was wonderful to see the Lievens family (BMM Global Fit - Deaf) there! We enjoyed great preaching of God's Word, tournaments, fellowship,

and delicious food. I found out about it when I was in the Chicago area back in January sharing the ministry with old friends and visiting a Wednesday night Deaf Bible study. Thank you to Bethel Baptist Church for inviting me! I'm glad for the opportunities to practice using primarily ASL throughout back-to-back weekends.

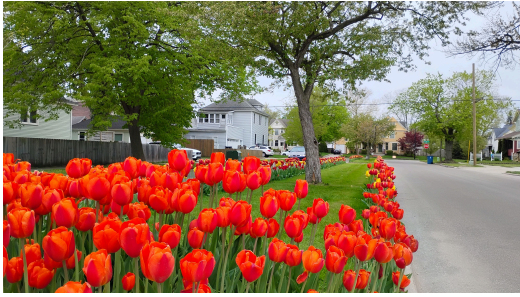


A (Mostly) Michigan May

The last five Sundays (including April 26) I have enjoyed meetings in my home state in the towns of Weidman, Durand, Bear Lake, Interlochen, and Montrose. The third and fourth were about a three-hour drive, but the others were all about an hour to an hour and a half. That kind of clustering doesn't happen very often, so I am privileged that I could come home after each meeting. Two of the five churches have let me know they want to join the support team, and one will have a meeting in about a month or two to vote. I heard that another church I visited earlier this year also just joined the support team. Thank you to all of you and praise the Lord! A Michigan May had to include attending the Tulip Festival in Holland - for the first time. It was wonderful to learn more about Dutch culture and how it made its way to the western part of the state.

In addition, a missions committee at another Michigan church asked me to come present my ministry on a Tuesday night. Immediately afterward, I took off for Canada for a couple days. My friend from college, Lydia, had invited me to come to the Niagara Bible Conference because she has been in Canada as a missionary for almost a year. Several pastors attended, and supporting churches may come from that time. It was wonderful to see some people from England and meet

a young woman from the Netherlands who has attended the Boyd's church! Lord willing, I'll be able to see her in July.



Answers to Prayer

I had mentioned last time that my home/sending church was having a special dramatized message on Good Friday. As far as we know, eight people trusted Jesus for salvation that night! Please pray for the follow-up of these people; we don't want to leave them hanging spiritually.

This past Sunday as I was coming home from Montrose, I stopped at Subway for lunch. There was only one girl working, and it seemed like she was stressed when I walked in. I tried to be courteous and make small conversation with her to hopefully lighten her mood. Later I overheard her apologize to some people who walked in that it would be a 30-minute wait because she had to make more bread - yikes! I felt

so bad for her. As I finished my sandwich, the Lord was nudging me to do something more. Someone that morning had given me a gospel of John. I wrote a little note in it and gave it to her with a good tip for all her hard work, telling her that Jesus loves her no matter what's going on in her life. She immediately thanked me and started to break down because she prayed the night before asking God for a sign that she should keep going. She was raised in a Christian home but fell away from it in adulthood. She told me about the hardships in her life right now and I got to pray with her (of course we were both crying then). Burt Baptist, thank you for being a part of that encounter! And please be on the lookout for this young woman - she asked for church information! This is not to brag by any means, but it was a great reminder to me to be aware of moments like this. You never know when *you* will be the answer to someone else's prayers.

Looking Ahead

I am looking forward to leaving in a month (from today!) for the Netherlands! God provided a very reasonable flight even in the midst of increasing oil prices. It will be wonderful to touch down on Dutch soil once again and help with a lot of preparation for camp. I was told I will be doing a lot of cutting, sorting, and laminating, which is right up my alley! Before that, I will be traveling back and forth between Michigan, Ohio, New York, and Pennsylvania (and possibly Illinois). Please continue to pray for travel mercies throughout it all. I'm so glad to have you as a part of my praying team!

Praises

- Safe travels throughout Michigan; more time with my family this month

Prayer Requests

- Unspoken request
- Meetings scheduled for this summer/fall (**if you**

- Fellowship with Deaf people in Michigan and Wisconsin
- Flight to the Netherlands booked

know of any churches looking for missionary guests, I would be happy to have you pass along their information!)



In Christ,

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