



Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday. I am sure it was a memorable one. Our Christmas was quiet, the first in 16 years without some family around. We made the best of it. Right before Christmas, Germany went into full lockdown. Within the restrictions, we were still able to have brunch with our neighbors Christmas Eve. It was nice to be able to connect with live people. We also took in a service at the Cathedral downtown on Christmas eve. It was a blessing to be able to “go” to church and hear the organ play silent night in all its magnitude. We rang in the new year with a family game night. The kids were excited to stay up until midnight. To our surprise, locals set off fireworks. It was nice that there was... something. It got us talking about what the holidays would be like here in a “normal” year. We anticipate great things.

The hard lockdown continues until at least the end of January with small hope of loosening up then. Kaitlyn is doing online classes from home. She was extremely disappointed when that news came out. We are thankful for her school and how much more progressive and engaged they are with implementing technology in distance learning. Starting the school year, the city of Cologne gave all students in Gymnasium (upper level high school) Microsoft team accounts. It's been a huge blessing. We also thank God for Hudson's Kindergarten. He knew when he provided him a spot, what we would need now. Each state has different rules when it comes to care during this lockdown. Because we are in Cologne and he attends at city run kindergarten we are eligible for emergency care regardless of our situation. By God's grace, Hudson still goes and continues to develop his German skills and gets to interact with a few kids 3 shortened days a week. This also allows Brandon and I to get work done. Thursday and Fridays, Hudson is enrolled in Mommy School where we will work on English letters, numbers, reading and writing. We are thankful for our yard and park near by.

Brandon and I are a little discouraged. I am sure many of you have faced those days as well. Its hard to understand the “what” God is doing in this time. On one such day we received a message from a Pastor friend and ministry partner in Calgary saying, “I just wanted you to know that as I was praying for you today, I really felt to pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on your lives, and on your kids. I read this morning in Mark how John said that he could only baptize people with water, but there was One who would baptize with the Holy Spirit. John was limited - he could only do so much. He had a part to play, but people needed Jesus to baptize them with the Spirit. You can do your part - and it's an important part - even as Jesus talked later about how important John was. Yet, your part is not enough - we need Jesus to pour out His Spirit. I was praying for God to give you the city... but in mid prayer, I started to pray that God

would give you the nation. We love you and your kids, and are partnering with you!” We were so encouraged. We value your prayers, Prophetic words and reaching out. Our prayer walks, our conversations, our blessing our neighbors, our being obedient to smile or to make sandwiches (see story below) is not nothing, it is laying the foundation and preparing the way for Jesus to come. Our nothing in the hands of Jesus is everything. So we continue to trudge forward listening to the Holy Spirt. God makes it simple. Love Him and love people, and with less people around we need to love more. As Bob Goff says: “Simply put, love doesn't simply think about it, love does it.” Be encouraged, your seemingly nothing is everything in the hands of Jesus. We are believing for great things for us and for you. Much love, The Brazee's

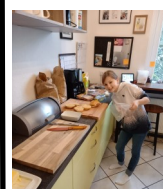


Prayer Requests

- Hudson:** protection, continued English/German skills
- Kaitlyn:** discipline for distance learning, peace
- Marcie:** healing for body, good attitude, peace
- Brandon:** Build new relationships, Vision
- Family/Ministry:** Health, opportunity to share good news, make the most of the opportunities presented, not to be discouraged
- Summer 2021:** We have tickets to come to America. Pray that as we plan, that the Lord would determine our steps. We are all looking forward to it, knowing we have to hold it with open hands.

Loving Köln

Before the full lockdown went in place, Brandon and KK went and bought socks. The first week of January, when everything was closed, we made sandwiches, packed tooth brushes/paste, fruit and a treat into a bag with a bottle of water. We had 20 bags and with the kids, we walked around our city passing out the bags, water and socks to those in need. The kids approached those we saw, asking



if they were hungry. We were greeted with smiles from all ages including a grandma. As we handed one of our last bags out we were approached by a man who had watched us do it. He said, “In all my life I have not seen such kindness.” Even though there are so many restrictions, God is opening doors and providing us with opportunity. The soil is being tilled.

