

# Only He Gets The Glory

## Hasty Family Update

Volume #1\_2016



We survived winter! “We are due a good one” is a statement we have been hearing for a couple of years. This winter, we got the big one with over 18 inches of snow falling on my birthday weekend. Snow and ice makes us shift gears in ministry, but not really stop. The winter months were very hard on our faith family with two significant deaths. In addition, the weather makes it very difficult to meet on a regular schedule for worship and Bible study. Needless to say, I am thankful for to see the trees budding, the grass turning green, and the flowers to peeking through with color.

Amanda turned 16 years old this month. It is so hard to believe she has grown up so fast. Her volleyball team won first place for their division in the state tournament. Amanda won medal at one of the tournaments! In the coming days, we will be venturing to the courthouse for the famous written permit test for driving.

Harrison continues to improve on his wood working skills. He has his work space for his tools in the basement. This is his escape. He amazes us with his knowledge of Bible and life. One of his greatest challenges is sharing his bedroom for the first time in his life with a little brother. But, all in all, he is taking it with great stride.



Mia is now playing the cohun drum for worship. Her heart is in worship and also in drama. She has picked up playing the cohun (drum box) quickly. It is a joy to hear her break out spontaneously with singing praise and worship songs. Like Harrison, Mia is sharing her room with her little sister. She is taking the rule of big sister very seriously.

Gina and I are feeling a little older having five children. The first two weeks have been great; however, we have had many appointments for the kids we must attend. The appointment schedule should slow down some in the coming weeks as the new “normal” sets in. We celebrated 19 years of marriage this month. Our God is faithful!

Spiritual attacks are real. We realize this as we continue to lean forward in faith. These attacks come in many different forms. We know we are being prayed for by many. We ask that you do not stop! In December as we were traveling home for

Texas, we were caught in the tornados in Arkansas. The funnel clouds were literally all around us. As you can see on the radar photo, the storm sent around the little blue dot (US!). On January 16, when we were returning home from a memorial service, we discovered the café towels smoldering in the laundry room. As soon as the basket was taken outside, it went up in flames. God’s protection is the only explanation.





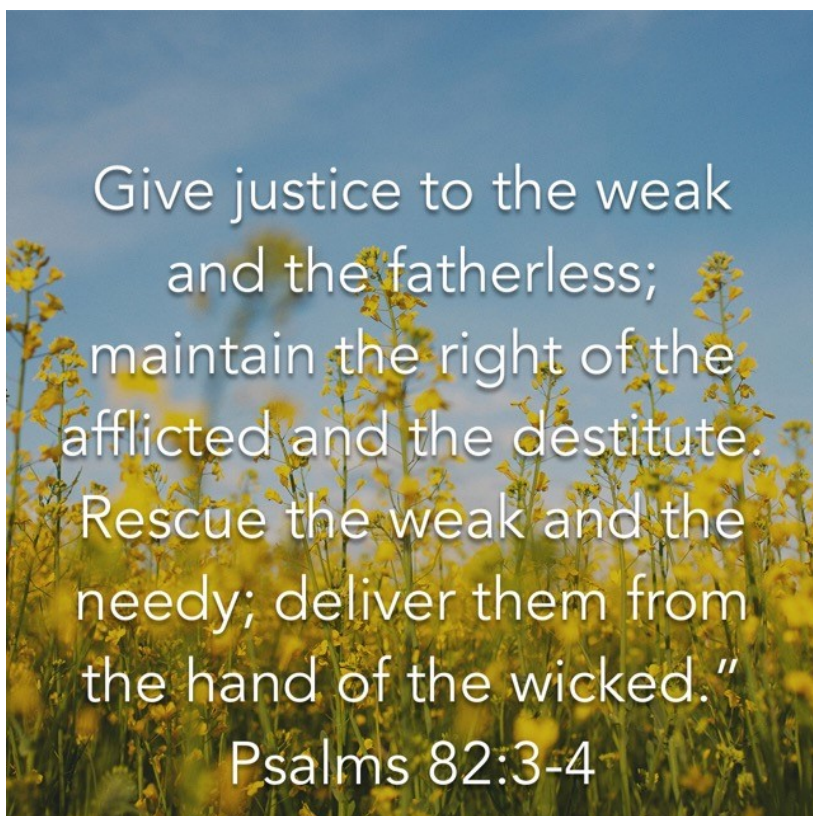
Our family is doing well. As many of you are aware, we are now a family of seven and not five. We began praying about adoption as a family in September. There was a situation shaping up for a private adoption. This began us journeying through the foster to adopt classes and certification. Just the preparation was a roller coaster of questions and making sure this is the direction for our family. We began our classes in November, you know, the slow time of the year. We were certified on February 17.



On Thursday, February 18, as our director was finalizing our file, a referral came for two children needing a forever home. We were told this would be a "long shot". We agreed to pursue. On Friday, we found out the state was interested in us as foster parents and plans were discussed for a weekend visit. By Tuesday, the official call came, no weekend visit on Friday, but a permanent placement on Thursday! So, on Thursday, February 25, we added a seven-year-old active boy, and a smart six-year-old girl to our family.



The process was just the beginning of the rollercoaster ride! Adding two children we still know very little about has been challenging. However, overall, this journey has been a huge blessing for all involved. We already introduce both as our son and daughter; they both call us "Dad" and "Mom". The transition has been and will continued to be bathed in much prayer. Because of the process and privacy, we are not allowed to post pictures of the kids yet. Trust, we are taking a ton, just not posting.





## Prayer

- Strength—as we continue to press forward to summer, pray for spiritual, physical, and emotional endurance for the sixth mission summer
- Family dynamics—continue to pray adjustments to our family of seven; many adjustments to the new roles of the family
- Adoption—all will go smoothly and His timing for adoption!
- Our children—peace and love to grow as stability and the new “normal” is established
- Support—financial support for both our family and for the ministry; the winter months are hard for many reasons. Both of our vehicles have had repairs over the past couple months.
- Long term helpers—Lillian is leaving her position with NAMB. We are looking for either Evangelism Catalyst or Church Planter Interns to come and commit to Crossroads.
- Summer UC team—college students who are eager to serve and grounded in the Word, ready to stand and do battle for His glory!
- Mission teams—it is not about the numbers of the individuals here. However, it is essential for teams members come ready to serve, but more importantly ready to hear and see God.

## Support

We continually raise the majority of our support for both our family and the ongoing ministries of Crossroads. Your support is needed on a continual bases. No, Crossroads does not make sense on paper; however, God faithfully provides through individuals and churches to make this work for His glory. “Crossroads does not exists without partnerships” still is a very true statement. Each year, the ministry grows, and each year, the God provides!

### **Crossroads Community Baptist Church**

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## CCBC

Our faith family has experienced some major heartache through the winter months. Even walking multiple times through the valleys of death, God continues to allow His mercy shape us. We all recognize it is during the trials of life that God teaches us great faith. This is true for our individual walk with God and our faith family. We are seeing some new faces join in for worship and Bible study from the community. I know God is control!

### The Lord's Café

For many days this winter, The Lord's Café served as a warming and emergency food resource for the county. We were able to open for simpler meals for anyone who could come eat or take out. Of course, we have been open most every other scheduled day. Currently, we are averaging about 100 lunches each of the three days. Many in our county have money for a few weeks from income tax returns. We will see the number grow larger in the coming weeks and into summer.

Armstrong Flooring in Somerset has donated a commercial wood floor for The Lord's Café. Our goal is to have this install before summer starts. We are excited to see this major improvement! Of course, there is more projects to be done around the building including some plumbing repairs.

The Lord's Café still operated by volunteers and depends upon donations to stay in operation. June 6<sup>th</sup> will be our sixth anniversary of serving lunch. Over the past couple months, we have added a few volunteers from other churches as well. Currently, we have three other churches represented as volunteers. We are excited to see God continue to raise up volunteers!

### The Learning Center

After School at The Learning Center has not been the most consist ministry. During the winter months, it is impossible to maintain consistency when snow was on the ground so much. In January, the kids were at After School twice the entire month. However, the kids we have coming are awesome. For many of the students, the help they receive at after school is essential for better grades.

The majority of our students do not live with their birth parents. Loving on these kids and watching them grow is such a blessing! We are thankful for the opportunity to invest in each kid. Many are looking forward to Summer Day Camp!



For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.  
Isaiah 55:8-9

### Upcoming Ministries

As we welcome the warmer weather and longer days of spring, we welcome family teams, and a team from Alabama and Georgia. These teams will help out with the daily ministry needs as well as connecting into the community. As we move closer to June, much attention is needed on both The Lord's Café and The Learning Center to prepare for summer missions.

Summer 2016 is shaping up! We do have some available dates in June for teams to connect in. We have an excited mix of new and returning teams this summer. In addition, we will welcome a new summer team from the University of the Cumberlands. We are planning on having a couple of returning students balanced with new students wanting to come serve. Currently, time is being spent responding to teams inquiring about missions. Many teams are also making plans to come preview for missions.

Fall 2016 is also available for teams to come connect. Some returning teams have already booked, but there is still room for you! Teams or families that come to serve through the year are a HUGE blessing to the ministry and to us personally. Let me know if you believe God is leading you this direction to serve.