



ONE

*"My prayer is...that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you...so that the world may believe that you have sent me."
- John 17:20-21*

One Body for One Community

Jan-Feb 2013

Mission Waller, Inc. 620 A Street P.O. Box 1567 Waller, TX 77484
a 501(c)3 non-profit

713-899-3215 www.missionwaller.org

Dear Family and Friends,

We hope everything is going well for you so far in 2013!

We had a great time celebrating the New Year. We actually allowed the kids to stay up late, and Jael really felt like a big girl because of it! She especially enjoyed feeling Elijah move in Mama's tummy for the first time the very next morning. Since then, it's not too uncommon to find her singing a lullaby to him or anxiously waiting to claim her title as "big big sister!"



Josiah may not know exactly what all the excitement is about, but at random moments, we'll hear him talking about baby Elijah. He is very much enjoying getting to feel like a big boy right now as we just moved him into a big boy bed, decked out in airplanes, of course!

We've been working to get the house organized and ready for the new baby, and the kids have actually been great about helping out with cleaning up their toys. We're so proud of them! Traci's c-section has been scheduled for March 28th, so it won't be too much longer until we finally get to meet sweet baby Elijah! And, the next time you receive an update from us, we should be including pictures for you to see!

In addition to all the family enjoyment, we also started a church. We know - it was a bit of a surprise for us too! We'd been praying about it for a while, not necessarily expecting God to lead us in this direction so soon, but He did. We sought out godly counsel and received a blessing from the pastor at our home church. Our first service was on Sunday, January 20th, and we will be meeting at 5pm on Sunday evenings in the Mission Waller offices. The name of the church is The Refuge Church of Waller. Traci is getting to lead worship and children's church, while Joel is of course preaching.

We covet your prayers for this endeavor as we are trying to take everything one step at a time and as we are learning how to lead a congregation. We've only met a couple times so far, but it seems like a blessing to us and definitely promises an interesting ride!

Save the Date!

Saturday, February 2nd -
Scarred Book Release Party,
6-8pm

March 24th - May 2nd -
40 Days of Prayer

Thursday, March 28th -
Elijah's anticipated arrival!

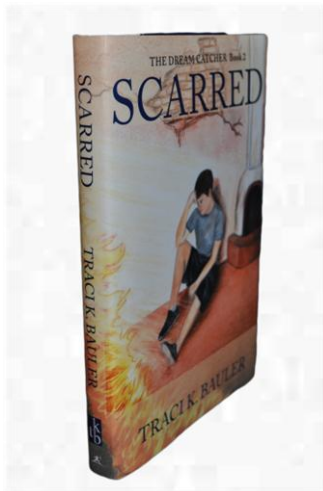
Sunday, March 31st -
Easter, Sunrise Service



On a different note, Joel has been praying about how to best fulfill the vision that we have for the entire community of Waller. To that end, he believes the Lord is calling him to run for City Council. It is an unpaid position, but it would be a great opportunity to serve and have some influence in what takes place for Waller's future. We don't know exactly what kind of role this will play in our lives, and Traci readily admits to being politically ignorant, but Joel sure seems excited about the opportunity!

We know our lives may seem a bit different from the norm, but we truly feel blessed to be able to live and serve our community in what we do. God places so many opportunities in our hands, that we often feel a bit overwhelmed. However, at the same time, we really do feel grateful and blessed.

If you came over on any given day, you'd most likely find Traci homeschooling the kids and Joel working on the continual process of trying to buy the home we've been living in for the past two and a half years. And, praise – it seems that the paper work is finally all in order for us to be able to schedule a closing date! We hope it pulls through and that we can soon own our home! What a blessing that would be!



As we're pulling into February, Traci is excited to finally be celebrating the release of *Scarred*, the second book in her Dream Catcher series. The release party for the novel will be a come-and-go celebration on Saturday, February 2nd, from 6-8pm. It will be held in the Mission Waller offices and will include book signing, talking and cake! And any time there's cake, there's sure to be fun, right?

There are a few other events coming up in the near future that you might be interested in knowing about. Waller Ministerial Alliance is planning another fabulous Sunrise Celebration on Easter morning, Sunday, March 31st. That will also fall during our 40 Days of Prayer campaign, which will run from March 24th – May 2nd.

On Saturday, April 6th, we will be supporting the return of Spasenie, the singing/violin playing group from Belarus that blessed our socks off with their encouragement and testimonies last year! We will be sending out more information on their concert as it gets closer.

Well, that's what's happening out here in Waller. We hope you are blessed by God this year, and we thank you so much for your continued support.

With Love,

Joel and Traci Bauler
And Jael & Josiah

Prayer Requests & Needs:

- ✠ **Praise**... Traci's pregnancy is going well, and baby Elijah is healthy.
- ✠ ... We've been blessed with the opportunity to start and serve a new church in Waller.
- ✠ ... We may very well be able to own our home in the very near future.
- ✠ **Pray**... that the Christians in our community would be united as "One."
- ✠ ... for discernment as we make decisions for our family and ministry.
- ✠ ... for our children to be healthy and for God to grow their character through our experiences.
- ✠ ... that we would receive the support we need to continue serving this great community.