



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

Nov-Dec 2012

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,

As the year draws to a close, once again we would like to take the opportunity to bless the Lord and thank each of you for your love and support in our ministry. It is amazing to us that Mission Waller has been in existence for 2 ½ years already – seems like we were just getting started yesterday.

We'd like to begin this newsletter as we usually do, by sharing with you what the Lord has been doing in our lives and community over the last couple of months. After that, we'd like to ask you to pray and consider how you can partner with us for the upcoming year 2013.

During the month of November, we continued working with the students at Friendship Church, and Joel was able to preach one of the morning services. He also preached at our annual community Thanksgiving service, where several of the Baptist churches in the area come together for worship and fellowship with one another. As usual, there were some toes that got stepped on somewhat, but overall, most people told us how blessed they were by his message and Joel enjoyed the opportunity greatly.

December has seen us become quite busy (like everyone else, we're sure!) with Christmas festivities. Saturday, December 1, was the Waller Christmas Festival, which Joel helps put on with the City of Waller and Chamber of Commerce. We also had a toy booth set up, and Jael got to march in her first parade with her ballet school! The day was topped off with Traci performing some Christmas tunes on stage, and she did a fantastic job.



The following week, we continued our family tradition of going to the Christmas Tree Farm to cut down our tree. Jael helped in the decision making process this year, and both kids took a turn with Daddy at cutting the tree down. And, because we were hosting a Christmas Market on Saturday, December 8, we got our house and office decorated in record time!

In the midst of all of this, Traci was working furiously to finish up her second novel, "Scarred," and we were really hoping to release it before Christmas. Well, she got it done, but we are going to have to delay its release until the new year. For those of you who have been waiting patiently, don't worry – it will be early in January, so the wait is *almost* over.

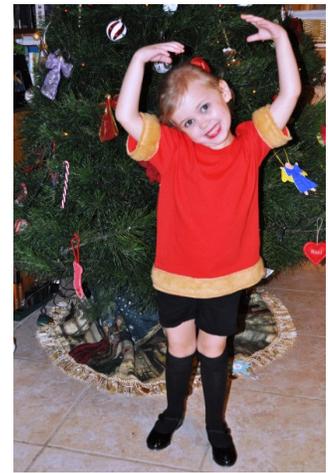
Save the Date!

The official release party for "Scarred," Book Two in Traci's Dream Catcher series, will take place in early January – we'll send out a special email to let you know more details!

In addition to this, Jael was doing some artistic preparation herself, as she geared up for her *Jazz Nutcracker* recital with her dance school. Her class performed a "Russian Teddy Bear" dance, and her teacher told us afterward that many of the parents and audience members said that was their favorite dance.



Speaking of the Waller Wonderland Christmas Market earlier, our first attempt at hosting our own multi-booth festival went great! We had six vendors set up in our driveway and office, and we partnered with Toys for Tots by allowing customers to purchase toys to donate at a big discount. We also donated some toys ourselves, and in total, we were able to contribute 20 toys to the cause. We absolutely love living in a community as great as Waller, and we are grateful that the Lord has called us here to serve.



One more thing – have we mentioned yet that we found out our new baby will be a boy? Halfway through the pregnancy, Elijah Cole Bauler is doing just fine, and we can't wait to meet him in person sometime in late March/early April. Unfortunately for Mama, he has started kicking pretty hard lately, so she *really can't wait!*

Now that we've shared what has been going on, we'd like to ask you to pray and consider how you can partner with us for the year 2013. We always covet your prayers for unity among the Christians in Waller, as well as for the wellbeing and growth of our family. But we could also use some help on the financial aspect of our ministry.

As you are probably aware, Mission Waller is almost fully funded by the generous giving of those who believe in our mission and are moved by God to take part in it. One of the neatest things for us to witness is how the Lord will bring new partners into our ministry at just the same time he is leading others to stop giving or to give to other endeavors. There have been several times over the past two years that we have literally had a family tell us they appreciated being able to partner with us in monthly giving, but they were being led to give elsewhere, and then within 24-48 hours we have received either a significant one-time financial blessing, or someone else has pledged to support us on a monthly basis.

Because of that, we have not had the need very often to specifically ask for financial help, but we are at a point now where that is exactly what we need to do. In the last few months, we have had multiple families who for one reason or another have informed us that they will no longer be able to partner with us financially, at least not at the level that they had been in the past. The Lord has been gracious in that we had some reserve funds and He has provided several one-time gifts to meet all of our needs. But we believe now that He is calling us to humble ourselves once more and ask you to get involved.

Mission Waller's annual operating expenses total approximately \$60,000, of which about 70% goes towards payroll, and the remaining 30% helps us with other mission efforts like the orphanage in Acuna, our summer community service projects with the teenagers in our community, and supporting Elizabeth Raines in her work. It also goes to special projects like "The Deed" movie we produced last year telling the story of God's Mercy Store from Waller's history, our 4th of July Freedom Fest and December Christmas Fest, Christmas productions, as well as unique benevolence requests that we receive throughout year.

On a monthly basis, we need to bring in a minimum of \$5,000 to continue serving as we have been for the past two years. Right now, we need approximately \$2500/mo in new pledges, or a combination of new monthly pledges and enough one-time gifts to help us fund our budget for next year. Please understand that we are only asking you to give as the Lord leads. One thing we have learned throughout our lives and ministry is that the Lord can be very creative in how He chooses to meet our needs.

Traci has been able to give private voice & keyboard lessons, as well as write and publish two books this year. Joel has been able to substitute teach and pick up a couple of odd-jobs as well. We have made some money selling Melissa & Doug toys. And just last month, we were blessed by a friend of ours, Mike Arnold, who donated and installed a new furnace in our home.

We tell you that to say that we are not worried about whether the Lord will take care of our family and ministry or not – He has proven Himself time and again in that area. But we also know what a huge blessing it can be to be involved in ministries/causes by giving financially, so we are asking you to pray about your role in this. Mission Waller is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, so any gift you do send can be written-off on your tax return.

2012 saw us take part in some things that we'd never done before, and witnessed significant growth in other areas that we have been working on for years. Specifically, the 40 Days of Prayer campaign that we initiated brought 50% of the churches and ministries in our area together by praying for one another instead of viewing each other as competition. Our 4th of July Freedom Fest was a huge success, with 19 different parts of our body working together to minister to 5,500 people that day, as well as see 2 young people come to know the Lord *at a city government sponsored event!* We hope to see more of the same in 2013, and we also anticipate greatly whatever new ministry opportunities the Lord will bring our way, but we need your help to make it all possible.

If you feel led to partner with us in any way, you can print and fill out the response card attached to the last page of this newsletter. We are so incredibly grateful to all of you for your support and love. You encourage us in ways you don't even know!

With Love,

Joel and Traci Bauler
And Jael & Josiah

Prayer Requests & Needs:

- ✠ **Praise**...Mike is awesome! Thank you Lord for using him to replace our 30 year old furnace with a new one!
- ✠ ...Traci's pregnancy is going well and baby Elijah is healthy so far.
- ✠ **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.

Response Card for Mission Waller

Thank you for your support! Please check as many boxes as apply.

- I/We would like to receive updates on your family and ministry by email:

Email Address _____

- I/We would like to give financial support:
(make checks payable to Mission Waller; all financial gifts are tax-deductible)

Monthly; amount \$ _____

Quarterly; amount \$ _____

1 time gift; amount \$ _____

- I/We will commit to pray for your
family and ministry.

Name(s) _____

Please send your check with Response Card to Mission Waller, P.O. Box 1567, Waller, TX 77484. If you prefer, you may also give using the Bill Pay function on your bank's website, or via PayPal online at www.MissionWaller.org.