



# 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 2013

Mission Waller, Inc.  
a 501(c)3 non-profit

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Dear Family and Friends,

Merry Christmas, everyone! This is one of our favorite times of year, and we've been trying to keep up with our schedules and remind ourselves to slow down and enjoy each other at the same time.

Well, I guess we should tell you what we've been up to for the past few months. We've truly enjoyed having a church building to worship in. It still seems a little big for us, but maybe one day we'll grow into it ☺ One of the most exciting things about receiving this building is that it is right in the middle of a neighborhood, and the neighbors (whether they are visiting our church or members of another) seem really excited to have the church come back to life.



On Halloween night, we pitched a tent in front of the church doors, set out chairs and a box of candy, and passed out grilled hotdogs and drinks to anyone walking by. We seemed to be well received by the trick-or-treaters (and we didn't even get any tricks played on us!). Our kids enjoyed being a part of it and hanging out with their friends who attended. By the way, they dressed up as Sheriff Woody, Little Bo Peep and Slinky Dog from Toy Story! So fun!

For Thanksgiving this year, we headed up to Traci's parent's Ranch house in North Texas. This is the first time we've spent Thanksgiving at the Ranch, and it was a lot of fun. The kids enjoyed fishing, baking, and riding their power wheels around the property. Traci went hunting with the men this year, and she was beyond excited to shoot her first buck while sitting in the blind with her Dad on Thanksgiving Day!

We're pleased to let ya'll know that we were successful in meeting our goal in collecting and donating toys for Toys for Tots each month (the goal was \$500/mo in toy sales from Aug-Nov, which would allow us to donate an additional \$500/mo of toys). Thanks to those of you that helped out by buying toys from us! Joel has been truly enjoying selling the Melissa & Doug brand toys (partly because he likes to play with the wooden trains himself!). Even though the City of Waller had to cancel the Waller Christmas Festival this year because of bad weather, Joel was still able to set up toy booths at various other Christmas Festivals throughout the season. He has also been throwing Melissa & Doug parties, and he is absolutely loving it!

We held a Christmas Market of our own on the church property, and we had somewhere between fifteen and twenty booths participating, plus a bounce house for the kids and photographs with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Jael also was able to attend an art class, which she was totally excited about. We are planning to hold this Christmas Market again next year.

As a family, the Christmas season is always enjoyable. We've been having a blast homeschooling through the season, learning about the Nativity story, the traditions and symbols of Christmas, plus lots of crafts and music. We took our annual trip to the Christmas Tree Farm and picked out the most beautiful pine tree, and the kids enjoyed helping decorate it.

Our kids have been growing so fast! Joel told Jael that she had to stop growing, and she just laughed at him! She is definitely not a baby anymore. She tap danced in her Christmas recital the other day and did a bang up job, and she loves to help out with her brothers around the house. Josiah is also getting to be a big boy. He's potty trained, amazing us by his constant musical awareness and consistently

asking to do school with Jael. Elijah is now 9 months old, has his front teeth, is crawling and standing up all on his own. We expect that he will be walking before we're ready for it!

This year for Christmas, we wanted to get the kids an extra special gift. Well, actually they've been asking for this gift off and on throughout the year, and Jael had even gotten to the point where she was asking on a daily basis (she has been gifted with persistence). Anyway, we got them this present early, a new furry bundle of joy, a cute puppy that the kids named Olivia Rose. She is a poodle, schnauzer, yorkie mix, and she is one of the sweetest puppies we've ever met.



Right now, we are enjoying the season, and actually anticipating another very special gift – Elizabeth is coming home for Christmas! She will be driving in in the next few days, and she is planning to stay in town for two weeks! We can't wait to spend some time with her (even though we have to share her with others!). She makes this time extra special and memorable.

In other news, we'd also like to ask for prayer as we head into the New Year. Please pray for us as we continue to homeschool our children, that we would not be discouraged and that we would be amazed at how much they've grown. Pray for us and our church as we are still waiting to receive all of the legal papers for the building, also, that we would have discernment in our decisions. Pray for Traci, as she will be taking on some more music students, and as she is working on writing her third novel.



Finally, once or twice a year, we send a request out for financial support for our ministry. There is no way we would be able to be as involved in our community, working to bring the churches together and partnering with other community groups, if it were not for the generous giving of our supporters. Mission Waller has been in existence since June 2010, and for the past three-and-a-half years, the LORD has been faithful to provide for all of our needs. A large part of the way He does that is by asking us to humble ourselves and reach out to others who are called to give.

If you are reading this, would you please pray about either making a one-time financial gift to Mission Waller, or even partnering with us by giving on a monthly or quarterly basis? Our current monthly expenses average about \$5500, which is an increase from years past because of the expenses required to operate the church building we've received. At some point, we hope that our congregation grows to where they are able to fully cover that need, but for now, we are basically a new church plant in need of outside support.

We never like to suggest an amount for you to give, and if you are not led to give financially, please don't do so! But if the Lord leads you, please print and fill out the response card attached to the end of this newsletter and send it back to us along with your gift. Mission Waller is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, and your gift is tax-deductible.

Well, that's it for now. We wish ya'll a very merry Christmas, and a happy New Year, too! We love all of ya'll very much and pray blessings will fall over ya'll!

With Love,

Joel and Traci Bauler  
And Jael, Josiah & Elijah

#### Prayer Requests & Needs:

- ✝ **Praise** ...for our amazing, growing kids!
- ✝ ...the overwhelming things God is doing to bless us and the community of Waller.
- ✝ ...that God is constantly showing us the way.
  
- ✝ **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.
- ✝ ...for us to be grateful for the times God is growing OUR character.
- ✝ ...for Elizabeth on her missionary journeys.
- ✝ ...for Traci's book to bless those that read it and draw them closer to God.

## 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

One-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 by PayPal  
online at [www.MissionWaller.org](http://www.MissionWaller.org).