



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

Spring 2014

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

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Dear Family and Friends,

Hi everyone! We are "patiently" waiting for spring to show up around here. Jael actually made a countdown at the beginning of March and hung it on the fridge to help her in the wait. Doesn't seem to matter though, because Spring officially began a week ago, yet it's still cold! ☺

We'd like to let y'all know that we will be sending out our newsletters quarterly now. Hey, I heard that shout for joy! You're thinking to yourself, "Woo-hoo, I only have to hear from those crazy Baulers four times a year instead of every couple of months!" Hee hee. But seriously, if you feel you aren't getting enough information from our newsletter, or you have a question, please feel free to give us a call at 713-899-3215.

We are pleased to announce that Kristin Gunderson with Gunderson's Bookkeeping has moved into our office building. So, if you have any bookkeeping or tax needs, we can definitely vouch for her. She's incredible at what she does, and she is a fabulous tenant to have in our office!

Our church, Refuge, is doing well. Joel is, of course, a fantastic preacher. He is teaching through the book of Daniel right now, and he is really great at making the text make sense. We have also grown by a couple of families. In fact, the children's ministry is now filled with lively and quite silly kids who love to ask questions and learn about God - seriously! The praise team has also grown, and Traci is enjoying the opportunity to work with such talented friends as Rachel Thackeray and Tina Dluhy, who've joined her in leading worship on Sunday nights. We are so incredibly blessed to have so many good friends around us, and we are excited to be sharing our lives with them!

Elizabeth is also doing well. For those of you who came out at the beginning of March to support her with her fundraiser at Cielito Lindo, thank you so much for all of your love and support. Despite the freezing cold, the fundraiser was a huge success. We had a great turnout, and she raised over \$2200 because of you. Thanks!

Elizabeth was able to share with many people about her work in Juarez, Mexico, while she was in town, and we were excited to get to spend some time with her again. Our kids enjoyed visiting with her quite a bit. In fact, Jael even performed one of her dances that she has been learning in ballet class just for Aunt Liz ☺ And, a little aside, she did an awesome job ☺



Joel & the kids at the zoo

Homeschooling, though challenging at times, has been quite rewarding this year. Jael is already reading chapter books and drawing like a pro. And Josiah is suddenly very interested in learning his letters and wanting to write them and learn to read (quite ambitious, we think, for a 3 year old). This is such a fun time to watch them as they grow and learn. We are really enjoying it. We even took a fieldtrip to the Houston Zoo a few weeks ago, and the kids had a blast!

Save the Date!

Sunday, April 20th @
6:30am - Easter Sunrise
Celebration

Thursday, May 1st @
6:30pm - National Day of
Prayer

Elijah has a **HUGE** milestone coming up at the end of this month. On March 28th, our sweet baby boy will be turning 1! We can't believe he is growing so fast. He is incredibly skilled with his hands, is good at playing catch, and always wants to be in the middle of the action. He is trying to learn how to balance right now so that he can start walking. We're still expecting him to take those first steps any day now 😊



Coming up on the schedule for Mission Waller is the annual Easter Sunrise Celebration on April 20th. This is such a great time for all the Christians in the area to join together to worship God and remember Jesus and His incredible love. On the 1st of May, we will be helping lead the National Day of Prayer. Other than that, Joel is already meeting regularly with the Waller City Secretary to begin planning and organizing one of his favorite events, Freedom Fest, which will be coming up in July. But, more details on that in the next newsletter.

One last announcement – for the second year in a row, Joel is running for a seat on the Waller City Council. After last year, we feel like we learned a lot about the process of running for public office, and we still believe the Lord is calling us to get involved in this way. Even with that knowledge, Joel still feels a little like he's in over his head, so we covet your prayers for wisdom during this season. The city elections are held in the beginning of May, so we'll be reporting the results in our Summer newsletter in June.

Love y'all and talk to y'all soon!

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 wisdom 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 Joel's campaign for Waller City Council