



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

Summer 2014

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

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Dear Family and Friends,

Summertime! Don't know about you, but around here we're looking forward to days in the pool, mission projects, Vacation Bible School, and just getting generally crafty with projects we weren't able to get done during the school year!

Unfortunately, with all of the rain we received last month, some of those projects were not originally in our plan. ☺ Yep, some rain water came in and some carpet pads went out! Thankfully, it wasn't but a small bit of carpet in two rooms. The only rooms that flooded completely have tile floors. Woohoo! We're glad that it wasn't worse and that it is a problem that can hopefully be remedied before another major rainstorm.

Besides dealing with floodwaters, we made a big push to finish up our homeschool for the year.

Traci and the kids have really enjoyed homeschooling this year and wouldn't trade it for the world. They've had the chance to learn about the human body, how plants grow, the Middle Ages and much more. Thinking back over the year, the kids have grown so much, and we are glad that God has called us to school as a family!



After a lot of hard practice, Jael got to perform in her dance recital in the middle of June. She performed in four different dances this year. We were all incredibly excited about it, especially since she got to dance to "It's a Hard Knock Life" from *Annie* (she perfected her "Annie scowl") and "When You Wish Upon a Star" from *Pinocchio*. Jael is also very pleased that she has lost another tooth, and that she received a gold dollar for her effort!

Josiah has been watching Sissy closely and wants to know when he can start losing teeth. Not sure if that's a good thing or a bad thing. ☺ But, he also had his own big event this past month. He turned four on June 21st! We can't believe it. Watching our kids grow up is so much fun, but it keeps catching us by surprise. When did they lose their baby fat and grow into their own unique persons? It's crazy!

Little Elijah has been parroting a few words and some of big brother's many amazing sound effects. ☺ He is also walking quite a bit. He'll only take about ten steps at a time, not because he can't take more, but he just doesn't want to. Sigh. Oh well, guess we'll just have to be patient a bit longer. And, by the way, he's got such a contagious giggle!

Joel and I celebrated our 11th Wedding Anniversary on June 7. It has been such a blessing to be married for eleven years. We've had ups and downs, and we

Save the Date!

Thursday, July 3rd from 6p-dark – Worship Night

Friday, July 4th from 3p-dark – Freedom Fest



wouldn't trade any of it away. God has blessed us in our marriage, and we look forward to seeing God's plan work out in the years to come!

As far as our work/ministry goes, National Day of Prayer in May was a blessing for the churches and the community. We met at Waller United Methodist Church, and it was great to see the different churches coming together to pray.



Another cool event from June – Joel got to perform the wedding ceremony for two of our former students, Cole Moore and Katie Horton (Moore). The wedding was beautiful, and everything went great. It is such a blessing to get to stay involved in the lives of the students we've invested in over the years, and to see God continue His work in them as they mature into adults. The only problem is, it's a constant reminder that we are now in our mid-thirties – seems like just yesterday we were the teens entering adulthood!

Y'all may be wondering if Joel was elected to the City Council. Unfortunately, he did not get elected, but we're not discouraged. In fact, we are grateful for what we've learned through the process, and Joel is looking forward to continuing to be active in the areas that he is already active, such as attending the Council meetings and joining with the City leaders and the Ministerial Alliance in putting on events in Waller, including Freedom Fest.

If you haven't attended a Freedom Fest before, you definitely should! This is one of the events Joel looks forward to each year. The City and the Churches join together to put on this event, and it blesses so many people. Here's more details, if you'd like to join us this year in celebrating both our country's freedom and the freedom that we've received through Christ!

Freedom Fest will encompass two days. We begin on July 3rd, with Worship Night. The craft & food booths and the waterslides will be open, and the stage will be filled with praise and worship teams throughout the evening. There will also be fireworks. Then, on July 4th, we will be celebrating with a patriotic ceremony, craft & food booths, and waterslides. The stage will be filled throughout the day with live bands, including our headliner, John Fox (a contestant in the latest American Idol). And of course, a huge fireworks display will close off the evening!



Thanks for reading our newsletter. We hope you're having a fabulous summer, and we love y'all very much!

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 God to move in a big way during Freedom Fest 2014