



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

January 2011

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Dear Family and Friends,

Happy New Year! We hope you had a fantastic Christmas break...we definitely did! As this was Josiah's first Christmas, we were incredibly excited. And then we were quite apprehensive when all four of us got sick right before Christmas! But, it all worked out, and we felt like this was one of our best Christmases yet. Jael understood the concept well this year and really enjoyed helping pick out the best Christmas tree for Dada to cut down and decorating it with popcorn strings (and then eating popcorn off the tree). She also loved being able to help pick out and wrap gifts for people. In fact, she was so excited that she had a difficult time keeping the gifts a secret! And Josiah? Well, he was a little confused by the whole thing at first, but as soon as we showed him how to rip open the wrapping paper, he was all for it! He even tried to help out other people open their gifts while he sat in their laps.



We traveled to Del Rio, Tx this year during the week of Christmas to spend time with Joel's side of the family. Joel's big brother James and his family (now back in the states from Ethiopia) were able to spend Christmas with us this year...and it was a great blessing to be able to bond with them and watch the kids play. Joel was able to go into Acuña, Mexico on Christmas Eve so that he could visit Casa Hogar Orphanage. The Orphanage is doing fantastic, adding playground equipment and greenery to their grounds. They also just took in a new baby, Alme Margarita Tovar Solis. When she arrived at 9 months old, she weighed just 5lbs. In this picture, she is 11 months and doing much better.

After his very encouraging visit with Irma at the Orphanage, we headed home and had our own family Christmas on Christmas morning. Then we spent time with Traci's side of the family on Christmas Day. We also spent New Year's there. It was truly fun to watch Jael dance with cousin Wyatt and to see Papa lie down on the floor with Josiah to give him a little pep talk about crawling!



Oh, by the way, big boy Josiah is sitting up very well on his own now and enjoys that we're starting to give him solid foods. Jael has decided that she is not only a dancer, but she will also be a mommy, too. She has been doing a great job taking care of her baby doll and also helping Mama take care of Josiah.

We also held a Christmas Party for the Ministerial Alliance during the holidays. There were nine different churches and ministries represented, reflecting about 20% of the churches and ministries of the area. During the party we recited the Statement of Faith that the ministers had been working on throughout the semester and completed

the week before the party. What a time of excitement! We also had quite a bit of fun fellowshiping and giving tours of our home and office.

If you can't tell, we've really enjoyed our time. The week after Christmas was the first time we've had extended vacation time off since we started Mission Waller in June. It was a great time of rest, fellowship and discerning some more things from God. We just need to take a deep breath and step courageously across the threshold into the New Year and all that God has waiting for us to get involved in.

As Joel was looking over our finances from 2010, in order to make decisions about our 2011 Budget, he realized that Mission Waller received 90% of our proposed budget for 2010! What an incredible blessing!

Starting this month, a church called Casa de Restauracion, will be using our space for their Sunday morning and Wednesday night services. We are truly excited to be working with Pastor Luis and to see the rooms of Mission Waller being used under God's blessing. We are also quite grateful to his church for helping us fix up the space that they will be using. They have done such a wonderful job; it looks so fresh and welcoming! They are also helping us fix up our garage apartment in our backyard.



Pastor Luis & Sylvia Garcia

Coming up in February, Ken Bailey will be heading up a fundraiser for Mission Waller and the Arts Academy. He will be premiering his newest Docudrama, "The Deed," a story about God's Mercy Store which was in business in Waller in the early 1900s. For more information on this documentary, go to our website, www.missionwaller.org. The Premiere will be held at Gateway Christian Fellowship on Saturday, February 26th. We'd truly love to see you there. We'll be sending out an email soon with more details.

We are also in the beginning stages of planning out another Christmas Production for 2011...and working on some things for the Arts Academy for the coming summer. Please pray for us in all the decisions that we make. We hope you are looking forward to this new year God has given, and that He will bless you incredibly!

With Love,

Joel and Traci Bauler
And Jael & Josiah

Prayer Requests & Needs:

- ✠ Praise for all the incredible works God is bringing our way...pray that we would know how to handle all of them and not be overwhelmed.
- ✠ Pray for discernment as we make decisions for our family and ministry.
- ✠ Pray for our children to be healthy and for God to grow their character through our experiences.
- ✠ Pray that we would know what things to get involved in and how much time to give to our ministries as we don't want to take time away from our kids unnecessarily.
- ✠ Pray for Baby Alme and the other 40+ children at Casa Hogar orphanage. Most of them are being rescued from abusive situations like drug and sex trafficking.