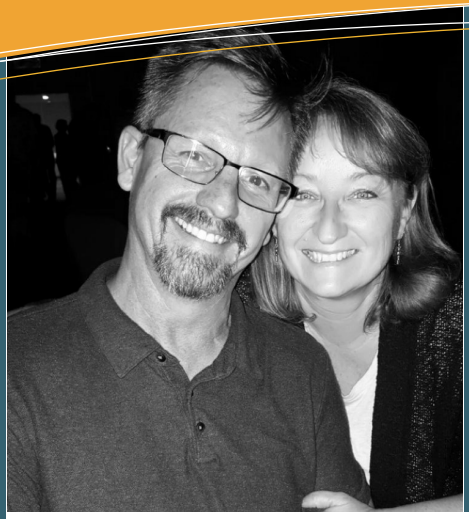
Monthly
News and Updates
for Partners of
The Drum Family

November / December 2017

Gratitude



this issue

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Grateful for a GRANDBABY!!!

We welcomed our first grandbaby on October 20!

Name: Lily Jade
Proud Parents: Miles and Hattie
Weight: 7 lbs 8 oz
Length: 20 inches



She's so beautiful! We're smitten!!! She's WAY more beautiful than any other baby EVER (maybe we are a little biased). We haven't met her in person yet, so we are admiring her from afar in photos and through weekly updates from her momma. We'll finally get to hold her after Christmas. Our secret plan is to send her parents out on movie dates and dinner dates and any kind of date we can think of, all with the motive of babysitting and loving on Lily as much as possible!

Love your Neighbor

We are currently in a season of both celebrating and losing our minds. Sounds funny, right? Well, let me explain – we moved to a house in town. Huge celebration! It took a lot of jumping through the proverbial hoops to make it happen, but it finally happened and we now live in a house that is MUCH more suited to the work we do with care and counseling. It is also proving to be a much better location for meeting neighbors and having meaningful relationships. All of that is really good, so we are celebrating this move and we're really pleased with how it affects relationships and our work.

Along with a move, comes the 'other stuff' – packing and unpacking, figuring out all of the idiosyncrasies of the new place, realizing that the electricity is not exactly up to par (as in, the electrician is now in our house from 9am-7pm each day fixing issues), etc. On the first day, I opened the refrigerator and the door shelves fell out on my feet. That was when we realized that the fridge was possibly 'mature'. It was being held together with duct tape and bandaids. Yes, I said bandaids. I kid you not, little sticky boo-boo bandaids were being used to hold the shelves in the fridge. That's special. The oven needs a good kick and a sharp hip bump to get the door to close. There is one electrical outlet that is attached to nothing - it's just an outlet glued to the wall. And the tub… don't get me started. *sigh* All of this is a little stressful (okay, some days it is a lot stressful), but we are learning to work through it and even laugh at some of it. And, hey – we have met an awesome electrician and painter and several neighbors who are helping us settle and work through the kinks, so there is a silver lining in all of it! (but we DO need to buy a fridge!)

Part of what I love about this new place and new lifestyle in town is meeting our neighbors. It's a reboot, of sorts. We are the new kids on the block, and we have a perfect opportunity to meet lots of new people. We live across the street from a bakery, and in Spain, people walk to the bakery every day to get fresh bread. That means a steady stream of neighbors walk directly in front of my door every day. We also live directly next door to a produce shop, and people pop in to pick up their fresh fruits and veggies all day long. About two blocks away is the butcher, and most people are in the habit of going to get their meat fresh each day, so I'm meeting folks at the butcher counter.

This may come as a news flash, but your neighbors don't live in your house. So if you never leave your humble abode, you'll never meet any of your neighbors. They are not going to bust up in your living room and introduce themselves. This means you need to go outside. Often. Daily. Consistently. As much as you can. Because that's pretty much the only place you are going to meet people who live close to you.
~ **The Simplest Way to Change the World: Biblical Hospitality as a Way of Life** *by Dustin Willis and Brandon Clements*

Continued on page 2...

Let's not discount the fact that we live in a small town. Eyes are on us all the time as the newcomers to the neighborhood. It is not uncommon (almost an everyday occurrence) for people to say things like, "I've been watching you walk your dogs every day" or "You're doing a lot of work in the house, huh? I've been seeing the workmen come in and out." Nothing we do is going unnoticed. This is a new experience for us! Many people in the USA comment to us that they don't know their neighbors or never have occasion to really connect with neighbors. Here in Spain, we haven't lived in the house 2 weeks yet and we already know most of the neighbors. The fact that it is a social society and a very pedestrian society, we see and greet everyone in the street as we go about doing daily life – buying bread, shopping for produce, getting fresh meat for today's meal, or taking the dogs out for a walk. One neighbor introduced me to another neighbor today as "the newest member of our neighborhood gang", to which I was greeted with a hearty laugh and a kiss and an invitation to come to their house for anything we might need.

"Your home should be an open place of refuge to family, neighbors, and community. Your home is an embassy of the King. Your home is one of your best opportunities to reach people for Christ. So many people are longing for a place where they are loved and encouraged. Your home can be that place."

~Your Home is an Embassy

'When we join God in His mission of hospitality (welcoming people in to our lives and our homes), we are actually creating a counterculture here on earth. Our homes become micro previews of heaven when we put God's warmth and joy and presence on display. Imagine this: what if your house became known as "that house" in your neighborhood? What if your home became a little bright spot in your community, that when people walk or drive by your door, their heads turn a little and they start to wonder what's different about you, because you don't seem to think about your home the same way everyone else in the neighborhood does? This is possible for us, because we can reject the values of our culture (i.e. privacy, security, independence, seclusion) and pursue the values God intends for His people (i.e. community, relationship, inclusion). In so doing, we become a radical alternative to the world's way of thinking.' ~~ ***The Simplest Way to Change the World: Biblical Hospitality as a Way of Life*** *by Dustin Willis and Brandon Clements*

That's what we want to be - the house that's different. The house that symbolizes welcome and warmth. They house where everyone is always welcome to come in and share life. We look forward to meeting more people in the new neighborhood and sharing coffee and meals and lots of time together.

Gotta run… I'm making lots of loaves of pumpkin bread to share with the new neighbors as a way of sharing our celebration of Thanksgiving and showing our gratitude to them for welcoming us and helping us find our way in a new place. Happy Thanksgiving to you!!!





Photos: (left) the new house… our home is on the top floor and half of the 2nd floor. The other half of the second floor is the apartment - La Posada (see article on next page). (right) Our painter, Antonio.

This Month's Prayer Requests

In our last newsletter, we asked you to pray for our housing issues. We were in a rent house that was on a water well system and the well had gone dry. Also, as our work and ministry has grown and evolved, that house was no longer very conducive to what we do. Back in April and May, we had been trying to find a new place to move in to, hopefully by Fall, but nothing had really worked out. PRAISES… we found a house in town with plenty of space and a really great set-up for the work we do with coaching and counseling and debrief. It is also great for local ministry work. And it puts Sarah 3 blocks from her school and 4 blocks from her best friends homes. So it was a win all the way around! And, to top it all off, our monthly payment is only $30 more than we were paying before. We only use our car 2-3 times per week because everything is within walking distance, so we are saving on gas, too. It's a boost to our exercise and health when we walk everywhere, plus we get to meet neighbors and chat with folks in town a LOT more than we used to. Prayers answered!!!

BIG PRAISE—ANSWERED PRAYERS… On Oct. 20, we became grandparents!!! Lily Jade was born healthy and beautiful and perfect in every way! Please continue to pray for her parents (Miles and Hattie)… these early days of parenting are wonderful and exhausting and full of questions as they try to figure out this whole parenting thing. On top of that, prayers for provision for expenses and needs as they move forward as a young family.

Grateful for you and your generosity

During this time of Thanksgiving and heading toward the end of the year, we find ourselves particularly focused on the people we are thankful for during the past year and how they have blessed us. Our lives are forever richer and fuller because of the people who God has placed in it over the past year. Without our friends and family and partners, we simply would not be healthy or whole and our lives would not be full. Thank you! Thank you for your prayers, for your hospitality when we were in Texas this summer, for your faithfulness to this work and to our family. Thank you for sharing life with us, for sending mail and emails and Facebook messages to keep us encouraged. Thank you for remembering us at birthdays and holidays. Thank you for all that you do! Thank you for loving us well. We couldn't do it without you!



Sarah celebrated her 14th birthday while in Malaysia with other TCK friends. And she found ROOT BEER!!!



Drums, Couches, and Cheryl in Malaysia

Ways you and your friends can help

Looking for a way to share in the ministry or work in a special way this holiday season? Look no further! There are several special needs that you or your Sunday School class or Bible Study group or family could help with.

Renovation of the guest apartment to host people in need of care, counseling, and retreat - *La Posada means 'inn' in Spanish, with particular reference to the biblical inn in the Christmas story. It is a place of refuge. We regularly host missionaries and other humanitarian and ministry workers for a period of a week to 10 days for a time of specialized care, coaching, training, and rest. Our current project is to outfit a large one-room studio apartment for this purpose - to be* ***La Posada****, a refuge, a place to stay in your time of need. We have been gathering furniture pieces, bed linens, odds and ends, but we are missing some crucial pieces to make this a nice haven for weary workers. Would you or your class or family consider a special gift for* ***La Posada****?*

- $700 will purchase (2) sofas for the apartment
- $600 will purchase (3) mattresses (we already have bed frames)
- $5800 will allow us to install a dedicated bathroom for the guest apartment - currently, guests need to go upstairs and use a common bath/shower area.
- $1200 will allow us to add a small kitchenette (sink, coffee area, microwave, mini fridge, cabinets)
- $400 will put a TV in the apartment

Other ways to help:

- $1200 would allow us to repair the fireplace in our main room so we can use it. Spanish homes do not have heat. It is getting pretty chilly now, with frost in the mornings. Small electric space heaters are not sufficient for the space.
- $940 would sponsor us to travel to train and mentor a young team working in a security sensitive location. They have asked us to come in the Spring of 2018.
- A monthly partnership gift of $30 or $50 or $100 - any amount! - helps us stay in the field and continue working with the local community, local church, leadership development and discipleship. We need monthly partnership in order to minister to others. Your partnership is the only way we can continue to work in Spain and around the globe.

To give to any of these needs (all or in part), simply mail in the form on the back of this newsletter or go online at **www.tms-global.org/give** and donate to our account DRUM 0321, and specify in the special notes what you would like to give toward. Thank you for rising up to meet the needs!



Billy working on his development

Development and Connection in Malaysia

Every two years, TMS Global holds a regional event to gather all of the workers from all of their areas and come together for a time of development and connection. During the last days of October, 180+ cross-cultural workers from this side of the globe met in Malaysia for workshops and development. We participated in a 3-day intensive on team leadership. We also had workshops on methods of discipleship and Discovery Bible Study, working with accountability partners for ministry and growth plans, Ladder of Inference, Living at Peace, communication and relationships. There were sessions on marriage issues, parenting third culture kids, and conflict resolution.

Billy and I serve on the Member Care Team and we spent time connecting with folks for times of debrief and encouragement and discussions on stress management.

We had lots of time to connect with others serving in our Europe region and time to discuss strategy and focus in our area.

Sarah participated in special programing for teens who live in other cultures. She was happy to reconnect with friends who only get to see each other every two years or on Skype.

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TMS GLOBAL

- Sharing the Love of Christ with the least, the lost, and the left out… immigrants, displaced peoples, the lonely, the abandoned, those who need a friend.
- Nurturing and developing people to be healthy spiritually, physically, emotionally, and relationally - because "care" is not just an emotional feeling word, "care" is a verb - an action. That's who we are… the care-givers!



Looking for unique, handmade, perfect gifts? Check out our friends at Ziyada!!! Our awe-some friends run an incredible business that you really need to know more about. Check them out at ziyada.org and make a purchase with a purpose! Hint: I own just about every placemat set they have ever made! And my quilt from Ziyada is a family favorite! The pillow covers are sooooo sweet. You'll love eve-rything they make… I promise!

Become a Partner! We would love to have you on our team!

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España

Contact The Drums:
Skype billy.drum
USA ph# 979-985-5238
(rings through to Spain)

Whatsapp: #34 652 144 783

Dear Billy and Laurie,

☐ I will pray for you.
☐ As God provides, I plan to partner with you by giving $_____Per month / year.
Special note:_____

Name (PLEASE PRINT) _____
Address:_____
City:_____ St ._____Zip_____
Phone:_____ Home Church:_____
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