



PO Box 385, Gobles, MI 49055-0385
jawe@ghhinc.org
269-628-5185

Dear Friends,

Spring, 2018

Transition. That's been the word around here lately! Besides the transition from traveling to leadership and support staff, there have been other changes taking place. The first one happened around Thanksgiving when we moved Robin's mom into our home. As the long, lonely winter months approached, we moved her into our bedroom on the main floor and we took over a downstairs bedroom. She has her own bathroom with a step-in shower and other amenities to meet her needs. Family pictures and Dad's artwork on the walls help to make her feel at home. Our busy, noisy household hasn't driven her crazy and she actually seems to enjoy our company! We are happy to have her right here with us and other than a bout with double pneumonia, she is doing well.

The next change was for Jordan to take driver's training. That's right—our youngest child (who is taller than both of us) is now on the road. As a high school freshman, he is busy with school work at home and takes writing and physical science at a co-op in Kalamazoo. Homeschool Performing Arts continues to be an important part of his life and the production this year is "Annie." Jordan has a few lines as Mr. Bundle and is also one of the singing and dancing members of the ensemble. He has been learning quite a bit about stage and theater lighting, too. Designing and running lights during HPA productions as well as for special events at our church keeps him busy. It looks like he just might have found what interests him for the future!



It's been a big adjustment for Logan to have a full-time job rather than to be in school, but he's doing it! He has worked for a few months in construction earning money to pay off his car. Recently, he has become interested in veterinary medicine and was hired at our local veterinarian's clinic as a vet's assistant. This new job will give him training and guide him into the schooling he'll need for the next step of becoming a vet technician. We're all hoping that our own dogs won't disown him when he comes home smelling like his patients! Logan has appreciated "deer coverage" on his car insurance. We are grateful that no one was hurt—including the deer—and that his car looks as good as new!

Jeff has gained full strength in his arm once again just in time for Robin to take a turn! After almost ten years of decreasing mobility and increasing pain in her knees, she will be having a total right knee replacement on March 14. It was with this surgery in mind that Jordan took his driver's training in the middle of winter. Now that he has his permit, school activities can go on with him in the driver's seat and Mom on the passenger's side—that is if she can keep from trying to "hit the brakes" on her side!



Between body work on Logan's car (the deer damage) and Mom's car (which was run off the road while Jeff was driving) and mechanical repair on our car, we have kept our mechanics and body shop quite busy. Our car had to have a major repair and then several incidental issues that have kept us scrambling to make sure we had at least one vehicle to get everyone where they needed to be. We have used two different tow companies a total of five times for three cars. Too bad they don't give "frequent user" points! Meanwhile, the boiler in our house was not working correctly—in January, of course. That, also, took Jeff and our furnace man a few weeks to finally get everything working again.

In spite of being constantly interrupted and pulled away from the office, Jeff has been able to accomplish quite a bit. He was actually ahead of schedule building the new summer stage when Nicole got a brilliant idea. Their team had a missions-related program and they wanted to have a themed stage for it! Jeff and Nicole redesigned the stage he was building and created one that looks like an old theater complete with footlights and a working stage curtain which they have already used for some recent meetings. Once that was completed, Jeff was back to building the summer stage which he still completed ahead of schedule. There may yet be props that need to be built or repaired before summer, but there's always maintenance on the office building needed as well. The building is now more than 20 years old and needs to have the roof shingles replaced. The estimate is around \$12,000 and really needs to be done this year. In addition to the roofing estimate, Jeff has been making building plans and getting estimates for the "Reach More" building expansion. There are lots of different components to those plans which will also include having to move and update the septic system. Recently, Jeff has also been meeting with other children's ministry workers who have an interest in working together to provide some training for churches. It is our desire to see children come to know the saving power of Jesus Christ and it just makes sense to work together with other believers in order to see more children come to know the Lord!



So what will our summer look like this year since we will not be on the road doing programs? Well, Mom will be glad to have us at home with her! And there are many projects at the office building that need to be done in the warmer weather that will keep Jeff occupied while he continues with plans for the building expansion. With the rest of the staff out of the office, Robin will keep the bills paid, deposits made, and the receipting done. We do plan on starting the summer out by going to Camp Barakel as kitchen staff for HisAbility week so we can see all those special friends! Jordan has a few things planned as well that he has not been able to do before. He will serve as an engineer for a week at Camp Barakel and then take part in HPA's summer drama camp. When the Knobloch team has VBS at our home church, he plans to help with special lighting. Currently, he is also raising funds for a mission's trip with his youth group to the Los Angeles area where they will train with "Lead the Cause" and then do some street evangelism.

It will be difficult to stay home while the team does the evangelistic work. But we know that it will be helpful for us to keep things running at home. In Exodus 17 we read the account of the Israelites' battle with Amalek. As long as Moses held up the rod of God, Israelite prevailed in battle. But when he became weary and his arms fell down, Amalek prevailed. Aaron and Hur came alongside Moses to help him and God gave the Israelites victory. It is our turn to join the support team just as so many of you have with your gifts and your prayers for this ministry. We appreciate you!

Praises

No injuries in car accidents
Creative staff who work well together
Mom settling in with us
You!—our support team

Prayer Requests

Robin's recovery from knee replacement surgery
That the truth of God's Word would be proclaimed in the programs
Finances for the office roof and then the Reach More campaign
That we and our children would always walk in Truth

In His Service,

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Jeff, Robin, Logan and Jordan Awe