

TANNERS 2 MISSIONARY ACRES

Serving Respected Heroes of the Faith!



Hello,

As we reflect on 2023, we keep coming back to two little words: But God.

This phrase is found multiple times throughout the Bible, and it's a powerful reminder that no matter what situations we face, no matter how impossible they may seem, God is always with us and He has the power to overcome all obstacles.

While we were in Washington last year, Artificial Intelligence took over the writing industry, and Lisa's business was slashed in half. She lost two steady clients in two weeks, and the income we'd been relying on for years suddenly shriveled.

It was devastating. As we prayed together and crunched the numbers, we figured we could float things for about six months with what we had in savings and our committed support. By December, we figured we'd be broke and Bryan would have to look for a part-time job to help make ends meet.

But God...

He had other plans.

Because though we haven't had a sizeable increase in support (in fact we've lost even more) or gained many long-term clients, He has faithfully provided for every need. We've never gone hungry or missed a bill, and the kids were so blessed at Christmas.

Through a series of special gifts (some from people we've never met and churches we've never been to) and one-off writing assignments, God has continually shown us that He is our ultimate provider.

And because of this truth, Bryan is going to stop trying to split his time between support raising and working at the Acres. There's simply too much work to be done here and not enough time to put into deputation. (Though we will still be presenting in the churches we have currently scheduled and are willing to continue to go to more if the opportunity should arise.)

We know that even though the math doesn't work out on paper, we are continually amazed by how God has worked behind the scenes, orchestrating events, and providing in unexpected ways.

So, we are going to keep relying on the phrase "but God" in our daily lives and ministry, and we can't wait to see what God does next. We're so thankful that Bryan will be able to put his focus back on the ministry

Praises

- Upcoming ministry trips in Arkansas and Tennessee to share Missionary Acres.
- Most of the family is recovered from an extended illness that we contracted in late December.
- God faithfully provided for all of our needs in 2023!
- Progress is being made on the remodel project.
- The temperatures are continuing to rise after a few frigid days.
- We got Jayme safely back to the College of the Ozarks and avoided driving in too much winter weather.

Prayer Requests

- Salvation for our children who are not yet saved.
- The family of Marilee Ostrander, an Acres resident who recently was promoted to Heaven.
- For the rest of the family to feel better soon.
- Lisa's Dad, Jim, is having a medical procedure on January 29th to help with his Parkinson's disease.
- Owen's health and that the guardianship process would go smoothly later this year.
- The health and safety of the residents and staff at Missionary Acres.
- The Raines family, who are currently on deputation.
- For volunteer groups coming down in 2024 (and beyond!)

Bryan & Lisa Tanner

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Email

tanners2ma@gmail.com

Phone

573-282-9889

Website

tanners2ma.com

Facebook

Facebook.com/tanners2ma

Mailing Address

201 Hickory Lane
Silva, MO 63964

Sending Church

Chewelah Baptist Church
Pastor Chris Robertson
chewelahbaptist.org

Mission Board

Baptist Mid-Missions
bmm.org



Serving at Missionary Acres

missionaryacres.com



Current Support Level: 60.0%

Let's Keep In Touch



needs at Missionary Acres

The remodeling project here has been going on for far too long, and there are several projects lined up behind that one. So, it's time to switch gears and really help the staff get these houses finished.

Missionary Acres Update

Missouri is getting a little cold weather along with the rest of the nation. However, this time around we have had a lot of HVAC issues. Multiple homes are running on emergency heat due to failures of the heat pump systems. Praise God, though we have had a lot of issues, no one has completely lost heat! And another huge praise is that even though we have had some part failures, it looks like most of them are going to be covered under manufacturer warranties.

Tanner Family Update

Jayme headed back to College of the Ozarks last week. She is starting her second semester of her junior year. She also started a new job working in the campus museum, which she's exciting about.

We are nearing Owen's 18th birthday, which means we'll be finalizing paperwork for his guardianship in a few months. We'd appreciate your prayers that this would go smoothly. We seem to have found a good lawyer to help, which we're thankful for.

The other kids are continuing their studies here at home. It's amazing to see all the different skills and talents that God has given them start to develop more and more as they grow.

Jefferey is learning a lot about entrepreneurship this year and has started doing a bit of content creation. It is fun to see him learn to plan things out and schedule his time. He's learning a lot about all the little things it takes to operate a small business.

Three of the older kids are still doing math with one of the ladies on site. This continues to be a huge blessing for all of us. Bryan was tasked with helping them one night with some algebra homework. He of course had a lot of fun diving into it and finding different ways to solve the problems. One of the children asked why they must learn math in the first place, and Bryan was able to spend time talking about how algebra has real world applications in a lot of the tasks he does every day here at the Acres.

Sally continues to grow as well. She just turned 1 at the end of December but is already a pro at convincing her older brothers to do things for her, especially Ezra. She loves to play and be held by everyone in the house, and we all enjoy spending time with her too.

Unfortunately, some sort of illness has been working its way through our family (which always takes a while) so we've been hunkering down a bit more than normal. Lord willing, we'll all be fully recovered soon!

We thank you so much for your continued prayers. Please sent us a note or give us a call if we can pray for you. We truly love all of you and thank God daily for your continued prayer support. We could not be here without you!

Bryan & Lisa & Family