

March 2018

The Luttmanns

Serving with Bible Visuals International



At the Ark Encounter in Kentucky

Dear ministry supporters,

I was recently reading Paul's salutation in I Corinthians and was reminded of you all when Paul speaks of those ". . . that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord . . ." We thank the Lord that our unity with you isn't just a matter of communication, face to face or otherwise, but that it is centered in the cross.

. . . not that any of this is an excuse for sending our first 2018 update in March :)

We ended 2017 and started 2018 in the same place—Illinois. Betsy's siblings gathered there for one great get-together culminating at the home of her aunt and uncle, Frank and Cathy



Family time included . . . make-shift sled riding . . .



. . . spinning honey . . .



. . . family photos and singing . . .



. . . and hockey on the lake

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Cofer. God was gracious to give us this joyful gathering so soon after the gathering last September for Betsy's dad's funeral.

At Bible Visuals, 2018 has been a busy one. My time has been divided up among several responsibilities including:

1. Working on our David Brainerd story. I've been providing our illustrators with necessary source materials and rough (and I mean "rough") sketches of what we need for each illustration.

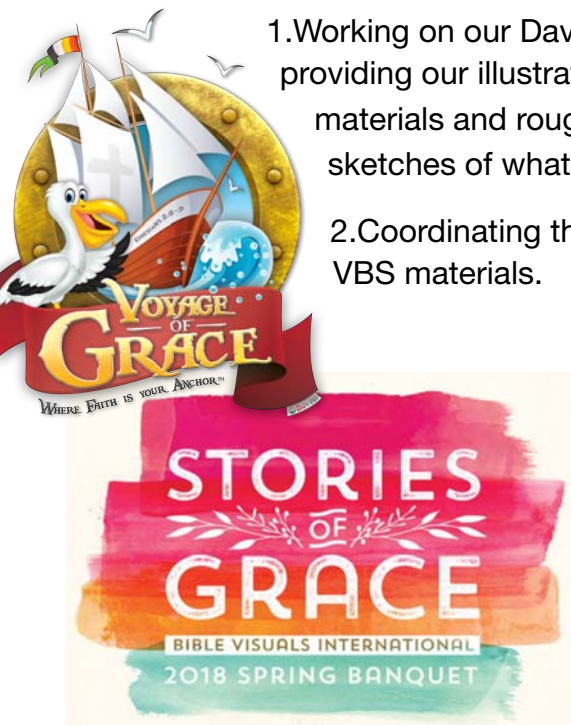
2. Coordinating the work on our to-be-released VBS materials.

3. Preparing for our Spring banquet on May 10th.

4. Representing BVI at a conference in Orlando, a educator's conference in Kansas City and two mission conferences in our area.

5. Conducting a ministry survey and coordinating some follow up strategic planning.

6. Finalizing two licensing agreements for BVI materials to be printed and distributed in the Ukraine and Brazil.



Now that March is here, we have also started our Spring semester of Good News Club. I say "we" rather than "me" because this semester the GNC has become a family ministry. Several of our regular volunteers from last semester were unable to continue this year. At one point we were in danger of not being able to continue the club, but God provided several new volunteers including Betsy who went through club training. Elijah, Samuel and David serve as helpers to our small group leaders.

We are also a part of another Bible club ministry this semester.

God's Truth Clubs in Maryland have chosen us to be their missionaries for the year, so we headed down this month to visit these after school clubs hosted in local public schools.

Besides helping with the Good News Club, Betsy continues to be very busy with homeschooling Elijah, Samuel and David. She is also part of a team of ladies leading a Bible study Wednesday night at our church (Harvest Bible Church). Recently Betsy got to catch up with her friend, Dr. Jude Leary, who visited us in February. Jude is on staff with Grace Church





Betsy and Jude

of Mentor, Ohio where she helps coordinate their ARCH ministries (church networking). Jude's been instrumental in connecting BVI to Grace Church and recently this ministry sent a major financial gift to help us with a production project. Jude and Betsy's friendship goes back to their days at BJU where they served together on a mission trip to Mexico. (They also had some fun . . .)

Elijah recently has started art lessons at a local studio and is enjoying learning to work with various mediums. Meanwhile, Samuel and David are keeping us entertained with their banjo and mandolin practicing. Jesse and Ginger are also in the entertainment business focusing mainly on leaving video messages via skype to various friends and family. Send us your skype name if you want to receive an episode. Ours is "tombetsylu02".

In our family devotions, we've been working through the book of Romans and also committing some songs to memory. One that's become a particular favorite is John Newton's hymn, "Come My Soul with Every Care". If you aren't familiar with this hymn text, I encourage you to mediate on it.



Samuel and David, the acoustic duo

Come, my soul, with ev'ry care;
Jesus loves to answer prayer.
He himself bids you to pray
And will never turn away.

Lord, your rest to me impart;
Take possession of my heart.
There your blood-bought right maintain
And without a rival reign.

You are coming to a king--
Large petitions with you bring,
For his grace and pow'r are such,
None can ever ask too much.

While I am a pilgrim here,
Let your love my spirit cheer;
As my guide, my guard, my friend,
Lead me to my journey's end.

With my burden I begin:
Lord, remove this load of sin;
Let your blood, for sinners spilt,
Set my conscience free from guilt.

Show me what I am to do;
Ev'ry hour my strength renew.
I would have your will, not mine;
For it's perfect, good and kind.



I love hearing my children sing these words especially to the tune written by Fred Coleman in the **Hymns Modern and Ancient** hymnbook. This has given rise to another little BVI project. We are pairing these words with scenes from the life of George Mueller. Newton and Mueller were not contemporaries. However, Mueller was impacted by Newton's testimony and in particular, Newton's decision to publish his own life story.

Mueller wrote, "I have many times had thoughts of giving in print some account of the Lord's goodness to me, for the instruction, comfort, and encouragement of the children of God; and I have been more than ever stirred up to do so since I read Newton's life a few days ago. I have considered, today, all the reasons for and against, and find that there are scarcely any against, and many for it."

Thank you for upholding our family in prayer. Here's a few ways you can be praying.

1. Pray for our family as we seek to minister to our neighbors. It's easy to define our ministry as simply Bible Visuals International, but the great commission is so much broader! We have several families surrounding us with whom we've started to build relationships. Pray for boldness!
2. Pray for wisdom for myself as ministry director. There are so many avenues of opportunity we could explore through BVI. However, we can't do them all and do them well. Pray that I would be sensitive to the Lord's continual leading. Praise God for the number of wise counsellors He's given me through Betsy, BVI board members and our local church.
3. Pray for Betsy and me as parents that we would lead our children in love and humility.

-The Luttmanns



During the trip to Kansas City, we visited the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter. It was great to reconnect with my former BJUP co-worker, Mike Matthews, who is the Editor-in-chief of the Answers magazine. We also got to visit Betsy's parents' grave near Alton, IL and we visited Mrs. Ruth Anderson, a longtime family friend.

