

B I T S

and



A Farquhar Family Production

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*But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord.
Always be prepared to give an answer to
everyone who asks you to give the reason for
the hope that you have....* 1 Peter 3:15

Dear Friends:

It is with great joy we write to you, thankful for your friendship, partnership in ministry, and prayers. The year has flown by, and it's time for an update!

March was a time of extreme highs and lows. Nancy was able to join her mom and sisters for a greatly appreciated getaway; thanks, Mom! The week spent with Julie, Mary Lou, and Mom was once again a family time never to be forgotten.



Dann spent time with his mother in March as well; however, this was a time of sorrow and good-bye as she ended her battle with esophageal cancer. Amid the sadness there is gratitude for her salvation and for several visits with her before the end.

March was also a highlight for Nancy who spent time in Ghana, West Africa, with Two Pennies Ministry twopenniesministry.com from our local church. She went without definite knowledge of how her time would be spent, but God had great plans. She was able to help establish a library in a rural school in Kataksie. There are no words to describe the experience of watching



children check out and read library books for the first time in their lives. Although the library is currently small, be on watch for another trip to Ghana in the spring to expand the work! There was also an opportunity to spend time with the children, directors, and caregivers at the Love and Care Orphanage. Nancy is definitely praying about what role she would take in a future visit.

May brought exciting change for son Michael, who went to boot camp. He is now a Navy Sailor, stationed in California as a Hospital Corpsman. We are happy for him and all that his future holds; we are definitely proud to be Navy Parents!



In **July** we met in Tennessee with as many of the Farquhar relatives as could gather, plus friends, for a Day of Remembrance and Celebration of the life of Dann's mom. Dann's father Don was still living there, and it was a beautiful time of



honoring a wonderful woman. Dann and his brother Kevin have been working together to help our parents with the changes in their lives.

Dann's father has since moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, where daughter Elizabeth lives. He has had several hospitalizations this year. His Parkinson's disease requires him to live in a nursing home. His being near family has been better for us all. Elizabeth is able to spend time with him regularly, and Dann and Nancy have been able to visit several times as well.

July also brought a change at International Teams (ITeams) for Dann. Because of concerns for cash flow, Dann's hours with ITeams have been temporarily reduced to 32 per week. This resulted in a 20% reduction in his stipend; thankfully, it did not impact health insurance. If there is an increase in the amount donated to our ministry, this will help bring us back to our previous income level. We appreciate your prayers.

Read any good stories lately? ITeams regularly posts stories of God transforming lives in powerful ways through our workers. Dann wrote code to move over 200 stories from the existing website to the new site, due to be released in January. Check it out at www.iteams.us! Dann regularly updates the websites that ITeams uses for automating their daily operations. Additionally, he maintains the data center at ITeams, keeping the network and servers working efficiently.

A relationship with a former ITeams board member gave Dann the opportunity to subcontract on design and programming projects. This ongoing work has helped to stabilize our budget.

In **September** Nancy rejoined the church Missions Team. She and Dann had served previously, and it seemed a good time to become involved again. Nancy has been a discussion leader for the spring, summer, and fall women's Bible studies at church. The topics of finding strength through weakness, pursuing joy, and living a transformed life have brought great opportunities to grow in faith in Jesus Christ.

Send financial gifts marked:
'for the ministry of Dann and Nancy Farquhar' to:
International Teams
411 W River Rd
Elgin, IL 60123
(847) 429-0900 gifts@iteams.org
<https://give.iteams.us/30US0442>

December hopefully will bring the arrival of daughter Rachel's third son. With a due date of January 3, she's really eager to see her new little one, and so are we. Landon and Jase, ages 3 and 1 1/2, will be great big brothers.

A career move for Elizabeth's husband Jerry has been a positive change. Otherwise, life is overall stable for Ben, Matt, Kyla, Danny and Joseph—no weddings, births, moves, or injuries.

Nancy is still knitting prayer shawls and other items for charity and is still working retail part-time. Her latest challenge has been to count steps. Thanks to the gift of a Fitbit, she's become extremely competitive with herself, aiming for at least 15,000 steps per day. She's known to be walking around the house while brushing teeth, reading the mail, talking on the phone, or anything to up the step count. After 16 years in our home, we finally painted the master bedroom. Dann is keeping busy with household projects like unclogging drains, refinished doors, replacing broken blinds, etc.

The house restoration continues slowly but surely. Our Juliet balcony balustrade was completed and installed. This winter we are painting elements of the upper front gable.



Wishing you God's blessings as you celebrate the birth of our Savior,

Dann *Nancy*

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