Tim & Michelle Bradford

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Cadence.org/Bradford

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Expectation: a delicate tension that must be held between the realistic and unrealistic. It's hard for a new missionary to *really* know what to expect when joining the mission field. While our current ministry doesn't look as we expected (we're told it never does), it does look exactly how God determined it would be. It's no surprise that it's far greater than we imagined! It has been a joy to move to Germany and watch how God has taken our dreams and expectations for this hospitality house ministry and molded them to His will and purposes. God is faithful to reveal to us our own hearts and expectations that are rooted in the wrong places. We are continuously reminded that God is in sovereign control, His provision is good, and His timing is perfect.

God will *always* unfold His plan in a way that allows us to give Him *all* the glory, lest we boast! As Isaiah 14:24 says, "The Lord of hosts has sworn: 'As I have planned, so shall it be, and as I have purposed, so shall it stand." God has been so faithful to regularly remind us of His greatness.





We pray you are encouraged by this and find intentional ways to lay down your expectations at the feet of Jesus during this coming year. Allow Him to close the gap between His will and your expectations. There is joy to be found in our faithfulness to obey His direction in our lives and ministry.

MINISTRY WORK

The Graf House is bursting at the seams! On any given Friday night, we see anywhere from 60 to 90 people in our home. About 25 of these are kids of various ages that need to be split up into different rooms. Do we have overwhelming and challenging moments? Absolutely! It is in those sweet moments that we are reminded of God's goodness, provision, and love for us!

Our Friday nights are mostly composed of Army families and young married Soldiers. As we have become acquainted with our community, we have seen the tangible needs for the gospel of Christ to infiltrate their lives, as

> well as our own. We are seeing issues from marital turmoil to understanding and trusting in the sovereignty of God; from the family struggling with their kid's obedience to the new parents trying to figure out how to be a family; from struggling with the lusts of the flesh to struggling to speak words of love and encouragement. Each person we engage with is a reminder of the need for Christ in all our lives.

All in all, we stay busy!

OUR FAMILY

Our children love people! Every Friday night is filled with the fun anticipation of seeing and loving on those who come into our home. Homeschooling has been a challenge for everyone. We are all learning how to adapt to different learning styles and motivations, as well as remain vigilant of assignments and time. Aaralyn is attending an online Christian academy and is excelling. Michelle spends much of her day homeschooling and preparing for Friday night gatherings. She spends time with ladies as she is able and meets with them over coffee during the week. Tim spends much of his time preparing for Bible Study and leading worship each weekend at the military chapel. Tim also has a men's group that meets every Wednesday for study and accountability.

OUR GRATITUDE

Our hearts are overflowing with thanksgiving for your continued prayer and financial support. Words can't adequately express our gratitude for each of you. Your contributions enable the gospel of Jesus Christ to be spread among the nations. We pray you find joy and contentment in such a worthy investment.

We understand many of you like to send year-end gifts and we would greatly appreciate any this year. If you are not already giving, as you consider your 2022 giving budget, would you please prayerfully ask the Lord if He would have you join our monthly partnership team?

Here is a link to our ministry profile: Cadence.org/Bradford. You can give directly from there. Please let us know if you have any questions.

It is hard to summarize a year in a newsletter. Please feel free to reach out to us so that we can add you to our regular email updates. Your prayers are so vital to this ministry! We love you all and we are so thankful that you join us through prayer, financial support, and love.

PRAY WITH US

Please pray for our incoming interns Jay and Annabel Bennett. We are hoping for their arrival around March. They still need to raise half of their funds. Please pray and consider a one-time gift or monthly partnership with them as well. We need them to help offset the workload here and free us to be more involved in the community. You can find their information at Cadence.org/Bennett.

Pray for the soldiers here in Bavaria as COVID-19 restrictions increase, and pray also for us as we adjust the ministry to adhere to our host nation's regulations regarding COVID-19.

We pray you will have an amazing 2022! May you be blessed with abundant opportunities to share your reason for joy and hope!

□ I will pray for the Bradfords

Much Love, Tim, Michelle, Aaralyn, Mara, Andy, and Marian





Tim and Michelle Bradford

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