

Laurel Givry

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*All my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

Goodness of God © Capitol CMG Publishing

The Next Step

Hello! I thought I'd get this annual snail mail letter out a little earlier this year, mostly because there is much to update you about and oh so much for which we are thankful.

PERSONAL UPDATE

Most of you know I was diagnosed with breast cancer right after Thanksgiving last year. We are incredibly thankful for God's faithfulness and goodness to us through this cancer journey. He met us at every turn and provided for our every need, including shepherding the kids' hearts through watching Maman have multiple surgeries and needing so much time for recovery. The body of Christ here helped us with so many things during the months I was battling cancer. Wow, we are grateful! And now, I am thankful to say that I am cancer-free! I continue to have "cancer therapy" treatments to help guard against reoccurrence, but my health is very good, and my body is getting stronger again. Praise the Lord!

MINISTRY UPDATE

God kept working even while He had me resting on the sidelines. Our MOPS year runs September through May,

along with low-key playdates and planning in the summer months. The leadership team from last year carried on without me in the spring, and MOPS finished with a strong core group of women who knew Jesus more deeply. Despite a third surgery for me in July, challenges with money from the chapel, and the lack of a full leadership

team through August, MOPS kicked off strong this fall. We have about 25 ladies attending every meeting. Many of them are young believers who we desire to disciple and help grow them up in their faith. We are regularly looking to bring in women who don't yet know Jesus but want friendship and support during their time at Fort Jackson. Please pray God will bring them, that they will meet Jesus in the friendships they make, and then respond as they hear the truth of the gospel.



MOPS Women



Benjamin and Samantha

FAMILY UPDATE

As you can see from the photos, the kids are growing! Benjamin (7) is thriving in first grade. He reads everything in sight, enjoys learning, and is making friends. He loves everything Star Wars, riding his bike, and still likes to snuggle with his Maman. Samantha (4) is so happy to be in the 4K class at preschool. She likes learning her



letters, painting, and moving her body any way she can. She's taught herself to do a cartwheel and a headstand and loves playing on the monkey bars. We see gymnastics in her near future! Cedric continues at Blue Moon Landscaping. He will celebrate eight years with them at Christmas next month. Cedric and I just celebrated our tenth wedding anniversary at the end of October. How thankful we are for the last ten years and trust God will give us more decades to come.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Amid the cancer journey, though not at all related to it, I lost several financial partners for various reasons. Cedric and I took a deep breath and agreed we would trust Jesus to provide since I didn't have the capacity to work on partnership development at that time. One way or another, God has carried us through. Praise the Lord! We are so grateful. Now, this fall, I have begun seeking new financial partners. Already, God has gone before me and raised up a few from people I didn't even know. Wow! Praise God! As I continue to work on partnership development, would you consider an end-of-year, one-time gift that would help carry me through until I am once again fully supported?



Thank you all for your prayers, love, and giving. It was incredibly encouraging this last year to know so many people were praying for us. We are so very grateful for each of you!

Following in faith,
Laurel (for all of us)



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4704 Brenthaven Rd
Columbia, SC 29206-1005
United States

Laurel.Givry@Cadence.org
803.445.8334

Acct.# 10590