

## Doris Hyde

Serving with Cadence International  
[Cadence.org/Hyde](https://Cadence.org/Hyde)

*I will sing of the LORD's great love forever;  
 with my mouth I will make your faithfulness  
 known through all generations.*

PSALM 89:1

### *Dear Family and Friends,*

The Hyde ladies hope 2025 has gotten off to a good start for you.

Here is a recap of 2024:

In February, I started a support group for a few widows in the area. It has been helpful to get to know others on this same journey and share struggles and solutions. Over the year, we made it through Miriam Neff's book *From One Widow to Another*. We will continue to meet in 2025. The next book we will cover is *Not Alone: 11 Inspiring Stories from Widows in the Bible*, also by Miriam Neff.

We also finalized the last of Ben's estate in February. After more than a year-long process, we are thankful to be finished. It was a steep learning curve, with a lot to keep track of.

Beth was home for Spring Break in March, and we enjoyed some much-needed family time. Brittany also purchased her first car, following in Beth's footsteps after she bought her first car last year. Beth has a 2023 Kia Sportage, and Brittany has a 2019 Honda Pilot. Both are very pleased with their new sets of wheels!

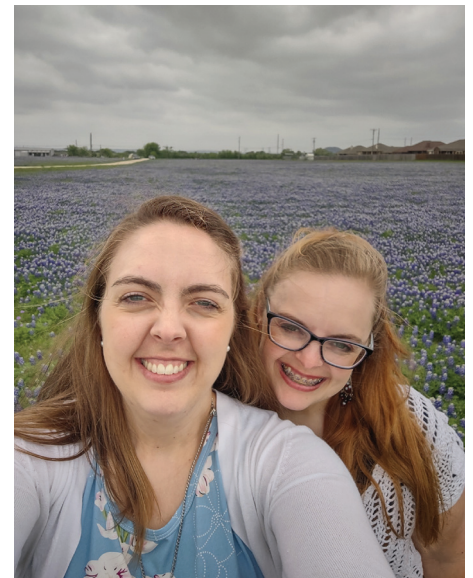
At the end of March, we celebrated Beth's birthday, along with Easter. One of our much-loved traditions of living in the Lone Star State is taking pictures among the Bluebonnets. They were especially spectacular last year! We dearly love the wildflowers here, and as Ben used to say, "Texas has the prettiest weeds!"

In April, we had a workday to fix some drainage issues in our backyard. With the help of the Fossils and Brittany's Bible study group, we were able to install a French drain, level and sod the backyard, and deep clean the big meeting room. I also received a gift of a water sprinkler for the backyard,

so the grass area looks great, is well-maintained, and is now dormant for the winter. (The new grass even survived our extreme Texas heat!).

At the end of May, we traveled to Ohio to participate in all the festivities

for my youngest nephew's high school graduation. Time with family was special. We were even able to attend my great-niece's final ballet recital of the year. Of course, we also enjoyed many trips for ice cream, which is essential when we visit Ohio family.



In June, Beth and Brittany were gifted tickets to see George Strait in concert at Kyle Field in College Station. Not really my thing, but they both had a wonderful time, even in the heat of the Texas summer!

Beth was home with us for much of the summer and took time to recover from a very stressful couple of semesters as a first-grade teacher. After much prayer and consideration, she decided to take a break after five years of full-time teaching.

In July, Brittany celebrated four years as a nurse and working the night shift! It has been a whirlwind for her, but she has definitely had some invaluable experiences and gained much knowledge along the way—knowledge our family has benefitted from. By the end of July, Brittany was also ready for a break and decided to switch to PRN (as needed) status at the hospital.

In August, we took a week of vacation to the Gulf, a yearly tradition for us as long as we have been in Texas. Two of the girls' friends came with us, and they spent the time fishing, swimming, and relaxing on the beach. It was an enjoyable time of rest, which we all needed.

After the beach and celebrating her birthday, Brittany started a new part-time job in the simulation center at University of Mary Hardin Baylor's School of Nursing (her alma mater). She helps set up and tear down training and testing simulations for the nursing, physician assistant, physical therapy, and occupational therapy students. She is enjoying a different aspect of nursing and taking a little break from hospital nursing!

After a pause during July and August, Fossil Fellowship (F2) started up again. Glenn and Mack continued to take turns leading the group for Bible study. We meet every Saturday evening for dinner, fellowship, and Bible study. Occasionally, we have a game night. It keeps me busy planning and cooking for a group each week, but I do still enjoy it!

In September, we enjoyed a visit from a couple who had been part of our ministry when they were active duty in the Army. In November, we had a visit from another soldier who had also been part of our ministry previously. It is a blessing to keep in touch with those we have ministered to over the years!

In October, Beth started working at an intermediate school (grades 4, 5, and 6) as a teacher's assistant doing in-class support in Caldwell, Texas. It was a much-needed switch from her previous school district, and she is learning a lot from the other teachers.

On the first weekend of November, we rented a cabin at Canyon of the Eagles in Burnet, Texas, to celebrate my birthday. We visited an observatory, but sadly couldn't see much because of the cloud cover. It was nice to get away for a few days and just relax in the Texas Hill Country. Towards the end of November, I hosted a leader's retreat for the leadership team in Brittany's Bible study group. It was fun to dust off my retreat planning skills again!



#### PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Wisdom and direction for Beth regarding job plans and/or further schooling for the following year.
- Wisdom for me as I contemplate long-range plans and decide which house projects to prioritize.
- Wisdom and guidance for Brittany as she considers what avenue of nursing she wants to pursue next.

We had a good Thanksgiving with friends, family, food, and games. November 25 was Ben's second year with the Lord. He is missed every day, but we are thankful for the many joy-filled memories we have of him to keep us going.

Our second annual "Christmas on the Hill" was held on Saturday, December 21. We had a potluck dinner, dessert, and a hot chocolate bar. Since our musicians from last year were unavailable, we had a trio: Brittany on the piano, Yolande (from Fossils) on the mandolin, and me on the organ. It was my first time playing the organ in over 20 years. We had a wonderful evening of reading Scripture and singing to celebrate the Advent season.

The year 2024 ended on a bad note for me when my computer decided it was worn out and stopped working right before New Year's. I lost some information, but many things have been retrieved. If you know my love/hate relationship with the computer, you understand my angst with learning Windows 10. Thankfully, this too shall pass, and I will adjust.

I hope your 2025 is off to a good start. Thank you all for continuing to prayerfully and financially support me. If you are ever in the area, please stop in for a visit! May the Lord guide and bless you in this new year and all the changes that will come our way.

Persevering with the Lord's help,  
**Doris Hyde**