

# Matt & Tina HUISJEN



Dear friends,

We're so thankful for you! Your friendship, prayers, and financial support mean so much to us. If you don't receive our email updates (we've sent a few this past year) and would like to, please let us know (and maybe check your spam folder!).

As we mentioned in a recent email, over the Columbus Day weekend, twenty-five of us stayed at a small retreat facility and had a sweet time studying the Word, sharing our hearts, cooking, eating, playing games, and exploring together.

On Reformation Day, Oct 31, we had a candlelight worship night in a twelfth-century chapel. Just listen to them singing in this 60-second clip!

We sent off our dear friends and ministry participants Derek and Charity a few weeks ago. The hole they leave here is big, both in our group and our family.



Candlelight worship



Retreat



Derek & Charity



Kelly

Here's an insider perspective from another dear friend, Kelly, who's been involved in our ministry much of this last year:

*Words will never be enough to capture what this ministry has done for me. The Vilseck House is more than just a house; it's a place where the love, presence, and peace of Jesus are felt the moment you walk through the door. Before coming here, I truly believed I could walk out my faith on my own. But Tina and Matt, their family, and the incredible community that fills this home showed me something different: that there is no Christian life without fellowship and genuine connection. Through this ministry, I learned how to trust people again. I learned how to lean on other believers, let myself be vulnerable, bless others, and receive blessings without feeling unworthy. The Vilseck House has become a safe place for me to grow, heal, and become the person God was and is shaping me to be. I'm not the same person I was before walking into this ministry—not even close. And it breaks my heart knowing that one day I'll leave Germany and won't have this exact community physically around me. But what I received here will stay with me forever. The lessons, the love, the prayers, the laughter, the worship, the friendships, all of it changed me in ways I will carry for a lifetime. The Vilseck House didn't just impact my walk with Christ . . . it transformed it. And I am forever grateful.*

## A QUICK UPDATE ON OUR KIDS

**Madeline, Stephen, and Lydia Burns** are living in Springdale, Arkansas. Stephen is on staff at Via headquarters. Madeline is thankful to be home with Lydia and loving people from that space.



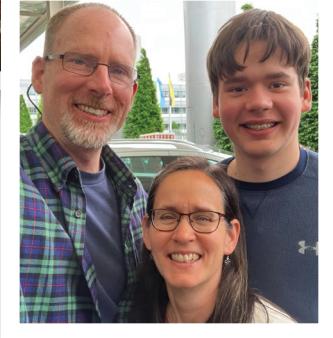
**Jesse** is active-duty Coast Guard, currently stationed in Anchorage. He likes his job as a Marine Science Technician and loves exploring the Alaskan outdoors!



**Toby** is also in Springdale, Arkansas, doing construction management. He and his two roommates live about five minutes away from the Burns.



**Bridget** is in Arkansas, too, and will graduate from John Brown University in December with a degree in Family and Human Services. She's looking for work in the area and plans to stay near her siblings for now.



**Dustin**, still home, is in eleventh grade at a German technical high school. He's handling being the only child quite well, though he misses his siblings a lot. We so appreciate what he brings to our group of soldiers, and he is a well-loved 'little brother' to several of them.

## GIVING UPDATE

We'd love it if you'd keep us in mind as you consider your finances for the coming year. A few of our supporters needed to reduce or stop giving this past year, resulting in a total monthly reduction of about \$700 monthly. Also, our mechanic has warned us that our 2004 VW 9-seater van will probably not pass inspection again. If you'd like to contribute to our "new" van fund, you can give by going to [Cadence.org/vilseckvanfund](https://Cadence.org/vilseckvanfund). We would greatly appreciate your help! We estimate that we'll need around \$20,000–\$25,000.

We appreciate your prayers as we share the holidays here with our people. What an incredible honor and privilege to be family to them during these special days (and always)! God is at work here, and we're so thankful to be part of it.

**We wish you a  
Merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year!**

**Matt and Tina**



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