

The *Divine Adventure*

Advent 2023

The Allen Family: Volume 38

Merry Christmas, friends! It's been a while since we've last dropped you a letter. We'd love to hear from you and know what God has been doing in your life. Whether you've had a year of struggles, or one characterized by new joys, we'd appreciate hearing from you and knowing how to pray for you and your family. Here's our contact info:

Matthew & Jennifer Allen

11403 Matinal Cir

San Diego, CA 92127

mtnbikesdSD@mac.com | 858.753.6050 Matthew | 858.357.5622 Jennifer

www.divineadventure.net *Our Web site is back online!*

As for us, we have seen God's faithfulness through some stormy weather, and we thank God for the new seasons ahead for us and our young men. It's our joy to give you a brief update on God's gracious hand in each of our lives.

Joshua recently flew out here to San Diego for a week of Thanksgiving to the Lord for all He has done for us. This past year, Joshua has been able to travel quite a bit and work in San Diego, Tennessee, Ohio, and even in Honduras. Recently, he has been spending some time with grandparents in the Midwest as he prepares for the next chapter, and we are excited for what the Lord is doing in and through his life.



Samuel is in his junior year at The Master's University. He is studying Electrical Engineering. His coursework includes subjects like Digital & Analog Circuits and other topics we couldn't begin to explain to you. He remains passionate about his long-term goal of living in Alaska, so we're praying for him as he applies for internships in AK

for Summer 2024. We are thankful for how Samuel continues to grow in his faith through his school and his church family in Santa Clarita.

Simon is in his junior year at Calvin Christian School in northern San Diego. He joined the football team this year, runs on the track team, and plays alto sax in the jazz band. He also takes frequent school field trips to the ocean! It has been quite a change to only have Simon under our roof, but we have enjoyed his quick wit and being involved in all his extra-curricular activities.

Jennifer started working at Calvin Christian School, and she gets to commute each day with her favorite high school student. Her role at the school is to provide tutoring and support for several junior high students that have some specific needs. She also has an open door to freely speak of Christ and the work He completed on the cross.

Matthew has been enjoying a new role at work in his fourth year at NewRocket. Since the company was purchased, the company's client portfolio now spans the globe, and this has provided Matthew with the opportunity to learn from organizations in many different industries around the world. His new position involves a bit more travel, which is never something you'll hear him complain about.



Because of God's grace, we continue to desire a life of service to Christ and His redeemed people. In this new chapter of our lives, it is a joy to be a bit more involved in Gospel ministry with Iglesia El Camino de La Vida in Honduras. In October, Jen travelled down for the annual Ladies' Day Event with a team of 6 others. The Biblical teaching centered on Eve and God's redemptive plan to reverse the curse of sin and death through Christ Jesus. In just a few weeks, Matthew will return for Operation Double Honor, a time of providing some encouragement, blessing, Biblical teaching, and rest to some of the elders from the El Camino de La Vida churches. Be praying for the preaching of God's Word from I Peter 1.

Speaking of Honduras, Matthew started taking classes in pursuit of an MDiv through SEPE Global, an online seminary program located in Central Honduras. The seminary teaches using a cohort model, and Nixon and Ernesto, two of the pastors from El Camino de La Vida, are studying along with Matthew. This cohort also includes brothers in Christ connecting from Chile, Peru, Guatemala, and other places throughout Latin America. The coursework has been demanding and will become even more so, but we certainly praise God for this seminary that focuses on expository preaching acumen through the historical grammatical approach to Biblical study.

Each of us wish you a Merry Christmas, and a happy New Year! May you rejoice in Christ Jesus with a joy that is inexpressible. If we can encourage you in any way, please reach out!

Warmly,

Matthew & Jennifer, for Joshua, Samuel, and Simon

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith – more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire – may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls." - I Peter 1:3-9 ESV