Family & Ministry Updates

December 2024



We hiked to a sunset!

Hello from the Warkentins! As this year begins winding to a close we thought it might be nice to let you know how things have been going and what our family has been up to this year.

This is now the start of our third year here in Quesnel. (we marked two years at the end of August) We feel we've now experienced two extremes of winter. Our first year had record snow-fall for the past 20 years, (according to the "locals") and then this past winter had very little snow. However, both years had a few weeks of **very** cold temps at lower than -35°C. ❄️ The local lakes typically freeze over by January / February and ice-fishing is a very popular winter activity. James is hoping to try it out this year!

In the spring Carolanne started getting ready to plant her garden. She loves having a space for planting now and makes great use of the four raised beds in the yard. This year she had potatoes, cucumbers, tomatos, carrots, pumpkins, squash, garlic and sun-flowers. She also had one full bed of ever-bearing strawberries that we enjoyed through most of the summer and fall. This year, for the first time ever, she learned how to pickle things and so we've been enjoying and sharing jars of pickled carrots and garlic from our own garden. They're delicious!

Ben has been trying to tame a local squirrel who lives near the garden in our backyard. We have put up a very small picnic table attached to a tree and the squirrel and birds love eating the seeds he puts on it. The squirrel has let him get close, but isn't quite tame enough to eat off his hand yet. Ben also enjoys walking the quiet streets of our neighborhood when needing a break from school.

The kids are both continuing in homeschool. Ben has started in grade 12 now and Julia has started grade 10. Both are going through Heritage Christian Online School which places them in online classes led by a teacher, either meeting virtually in a weekly class, or self directed through online lesson material. The workload is quite heavy but both are working hard to keep on-track with their courses.

We have continued to become more involved in church life. Julia has really enjoyed the youth program at our church, and she even went with over 40 of them on a weekend trip to West Edmonton Mall. She's also been learning to help with ProPresenter to control the slides for Sunday worship services.

James, Carolanne, Ben & Julia – Serving with P2C :: Digital Strategies
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James has also been involved in Sunday services by playing bass periodically with the worship team. He loves playing bass and enjoys being able to serve in a way that doesn't involve computer screens. :)

We also enjoy having a life-group that meets weekly in our home. We usually watch through a video series and then spend time discussing the video and praying for one another. It has been a very special opportunity to connect more deeply with a few other couples from the church. We have felt very blessed to have formed some good friendships in that group.

MINISTRY UPDATE

This year James has worked quite a lot on building a mobile app for the mentors. The P2C Digital Strategies ministry hopes that it will help our mentors connect more effectively with people who write in from our websites. The app is still in the "testing" phase but we hope to release it to the larger mentor team soon.

He has also started work on a new project with the ministry which aims to bring together more communities of people. Our hope is to bring online communities together around specific topics for the purpose of growing closer Jesus together.

Thank you for helping us continue to serve with
Power to Change :: Digital Strategies!

As you may know, our ministry is funded by people who give generously through our non-profit Christian ministry, Power to Change. Carolanne and I are so thankful for the many people who give financially and pray for us faithfully in order to allow us to remain in this work.

We would be honoured if you would consider giving a donation this year. Your gift would be tax-receiptable through Power to Change. To learn more visit our site using the QR Code or at: www.jamesandcarolanne.com/give

To learn more about us and the ministry we are part of, you can visit: www.jamesandcarolanne.com

Thank you so much for keeping us in your prayers and your hearts.
Wishing you all the best,

James & Carolanne
Ben, Julia & Hershey

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