

Happy New Year 2025 Friends and Family – we hope you had a Merry Christmas. To recap 2024 in a few short words:

Ken was busy this year repairing and selling lawn mowers and snowblowers. He also started buying mini vans to part out and sell parts; after replacing our van. He continues to handle the inventory rotation of the food depot working with staff each month. In addition, to answering multiple questions about repairs to toilets, water issues, battery/solar problems, etc. at EGO. (It is a praise to have staff we can rely on to handle these tasks in our absence.) He and Steven also worked on a couple construction projects while Sam & Steven were visiting during December. He will be traveling to the Dominican Republic in a couple of weeks, with our church to help a fellow missionary complete some projects.

Marla continues leading a women's Bible Study at our church, volunteering in Jr. Church, as well as, recently adding the hat of Program Director for the next year. At the end of June, Marla and our Pastor's daughter, Sarah, traveled to Santiago, Dominican Republic, to check out the mission project for our church, as well as purchase some much needed supplies for EGO. While there, Marla was able to meet up with the security staff from EGO at the border and hand over 800 pounds of much needed food staples. Praise the Lord for safety for the boys traveling back and forth without incident. We enjoyed a week at our Church Family Camp and then Makendy and Marla volunteered at our church's VBS. Marla's dad's side of the family also held a family reunion in August, after not having one for about 20 years. It was a great time of getting caught up. She continues to talk with Haiti daily, receiving numerous phone calls and text messages. Trying to balance the books was quite the job for this past year, but we got it done and to the IRS on time. Handling employee contracts and salary increases was a bit more complicated from here; however, they were mailed and arrived only a month late. She worked with Courtney in getting Christmas gifts sent early so as not to have a repeat of last year and we are grateful that the gifts all arrived on time and the children were able to have a wonderful Christmas. The year 2024 brought way too many deaths of close friends of the family, in addition to a baby at EGO. Getting older and having so many people you know pass away is difficult, but we are thankful that every one of them were followers and believers in the Lord.

Max continues flying for Dynamic Aviation, currently doing a rotation in Fire & Rescue in California. We get to see him usually once a month, but sometimes less. He is growing into quite the wonderful and interesting young man. He started a men's Bible study online for pilots and that is going well.

Makendy had a busy 5th grade year making honor roll all four semesters. He participated in youth basketball and won over half his games throughout the months of January through March. He participated in CMU's Invention Convention by creating a kitchen glove (no burns or cuts) to keep you safe while working in the kitchen. It was a lot of work, but he had fun. He also continued his martial arts classes and moved up to Yellow/Black stripe level. He started 6th grade in the Fall and had his 12th birthday party with lots of friends. His favorite pastime is playing his video games or watching TV.

Dahicha had a great year. We went to the ER only twice and did not have to spend the night either time. This is the second year in her life that we have not had a hospital stay. Praise the Lord. She received a speaking valve for her trache tube in April and started attending speech therapy classes.

We were able to hear her voice again; what a joy. She sees over fourteen specialists, many of them twice a year. So, there are multiple trips to Grand Rapids (3 hours round trip) each month.

Samantha & Steven added to their family with little Hadassah born October 10th. Marla was able to travel to Canada arriving three days before the little bundle of joy came via an unexpected emergency c-section. Then before Thanksgiving, the family traveled to Michigan to spend the holidays. What a joy to have so many of our family under one roof.

We were able to travel and speak to three different churches throughout the year about EGO, as well as set up our display and fundraise through a bake sale at craft shows in September and November. Even though we are not physically present in Haiti, our thoughts and duties continue to be present in our daily activities. We want to thank all of you who continue to support us in prayer and with your finances. If you have any questions or want to stay up to date on the happenings of EGO, please feel free to follow us on Facebook, or receive our newsletter that goes out four times per year.

Have a blessed year!

Ken and Marla Drowley Family

