

Dear Friends,

March 2018

We hope you are enjoying the first signs of spring (maybe?) and that you are healthy after this crazy cold/flu season we've had!

The new year started with a bizarre health scare for us. In the midst of traveling back home from the holidays visiting family, Jessie got a debilitating migraine which didn't let up for 19 days and left her unable to drive, unable to be out of bed for more than a few minutes, and nearly unable to eat. After being sent to urgent care by her midwife, she was sent to the emergency room.

Nothing helped, because most medicines can't be taken while you're pregnant. So with the help of a few old friends with a history of migraines, some books, and some serious google searching, Jessie embarked on an impromptu elimination diet and started going to the chiropractor—the combination of these two things have helped dramatically and gotten her out of bed!

Please pray for wisdom for Jessie as she cautiously tries to eat a bit more widely (especially to get good nutrition to the baby) while not re-triggering a migraine, and also ask that she would get some answers to the constant migraine auras that have not yet gone away.

In light of this, if we have not gotten back to your email or call, we really apologize and hope to be caught up and back to normal soon!

Praise God—we happened to have an ultrasound appointment in the middle of all the craziness, and though it was hard for Jessie to even walk into the appointment, it was such a blessed relief to be able to see our baby GIRL doing

acrobatics on the screen. We are glad to know that all is well with her.

Our other updates are more normal. Abeneazer's studies are busy but good. Jessie's work with Equip (communications, interviewing missionaries, helping with a website revamp) and MNA (developing the Refugee and Immigrant Ministry's monthly newsletter) is busy but good.

Daniel is keeping us on our toes and entertained with his earnestly strong opinions, budding sense of humor, and perpetual supply of energy. He is beyond excited to have a sibling. Jessie being sick for so long was very hard on him emotionally, but we've really seen him grow in empathy through that experience—so that's a silver lining.

By God's grace, Jessie was able to present a paper this past weekend at the 2018 Evangelical Missiological Society conference right in our backyard at SEBTS. It was on the strategic nature of welcoming immigrants as a church multiplication strategy both among immigrants themselves and among native-born Americans, and it was really exciting to be among so many thinkers collaborating on the topic of "Mission in a Secularizing World."

The situation in Eth. continues to be concerning. The prime minister has resigned and there are a lot of uncertainties about future leadership and how conflict between groups will be resolved. The state of emergency is in effect again. An interim leader will be chosen soon, and will have big implications for the future of the country.

Please pray for God's will to be done and for peace. We try to be wise in how much we share through email, but if you want a more complete picture of what

is going on, BBC and Al-Jazeera have some helpful coverage.

How has your 2018 been so far?

Can you reply and just share a bit with us (whether good or hard) about what's new with you?

So glad we can keep in touch,

Abeneazer, Jessie, Daniel, and Baby Girl
