

## 2024 Highlights and Happenings...

We have a large blackboard in our kitchen — for the last few years, it's been our yearly “Hopes, Dreams, Vision” board. At the beginning of this year, I (Amy) wrote the word **discernment**. At the time, I had no idea what that was for... I just knew that I felt it for 2024. Now that we've entered December, I see so clearly just how relevant that word has been in this year. Our family has processed 2019-level change (that was the year we sold our house and came to YWAM Tyler)!!!

From graduations (Nolan from DTS, Savana from high school), to sending Savana off to college in Michigan... To our three high schoolers now attending the local public high school (Landon -11th, Lucie -10th, Tessa - 9th), and our youngest boys homeschooling this year... We sold our faithful friend and trusty Ford Transit (It turns out the more kids grow up and become independent, the less we needed to be able to carry our family of 9 altogether - insert sobbing emoji here...). Significant change also unfolded for us on the ministry front - after a season of processing change here at YWAM Tyler, we recognized differences in direction & values. The challenge in this season is acknowledging the Lord moving us out of YWAM Tyler, without knowing yet what He is calling us into... But God. He's faithful. He's good. He has been so kind to walk with us through loads of discernment, and we are doing our best to follow Him! While we'd love to know more about our next season, we're trusting Him to lead us step by step (as He's done...) into the next. We plan to stay in the Lindale area, at least until Tessa graduates... And we're actively looking for jobs and other ministry opportunities. Would you please be praying for our family in this season of transition?



### South Sudan Outreach

In September, I (Neil) had the opportunity to join a small outreach team to serve Harvesters Reaching the Nations (HRTN) in Terekeka, South Sudan, Africa. HRTN is a ministry that operates two orphanages, two schools, and a hospital in South Sudan. The school in Terekeka provides education for both the children from the orphanage and the local village, which includes a lunchtime feeding program. In total, around 800 children attend and are fed at the school. The outdoor stoves and ventilation were in a state of significant deterioration, so we spent most of our time deconstructing and rebuilding brick and concrete stoves, and creating new ventilation for them. We also had the opportunity to love on the students and orphans as well as encourage and pray for the school and orphanage staff. Many of the orphans, students, and staff expressed heartfelt appreciation for our willingness to serve them. One of my highlights was interacting with a former orphan and school alumnus, who is now an attorney in South Sudan. He could not have made more clear the importance of our willingness to travel there and serve them, and that we are ambassadors for them and HRTN back in the United States.

### Savana's Hillsdale Testimony

When I first received my Hillsdale acceptance letter in the mail, I did not feel the overwhelming excitement you might expect. Now, granted, I had already found out I was accepted a couple weeks earlier through my online account. The letter, however, included my academic-based scholarship offer. Instead of thinking about how wonderful my next adventure in life would be, I was frustrated and angry because the scholarships I depended on were far from enough. After a lot of praying and processing with my parents, we felt it was time to pay the deposit, even though the funds were not yet there. Not even a full day later I received an email. The subject line read something like: “Art Scholarship.” I barely even remembered applying for the scholarship, let alone expected anything to come from it. Throughout the week following it seemed that every day God provided more financially. Although it was hard for me to see how I could make my dreams a reality due to the high price tag, God knew and was just waiting on my “yes”. I just finished my first semester and I have already learned so much. I know that Hillsdale is where I am meant to be and I am so excited for the next 3.5 years of this journey :)



2024 at a glance...

- Nolan graduates DTS (Discipleship Training School)
- Amy - Outreach at the border (South Texas)
- Savana graduates from CHS
- Savana & Landon attend YAF conference in D.C.
- Neil and Amy lead a week of New Orleans outreach
- SST's - Lucie (phase 2) & Tessa (phase 1); We serve as a family
- Amy & Savana cook for SST outreach in Houston
- Savana goes to Hillsdale College
- Eli & Titus start homeschooling
- Neil — outreach to South Sudan
- Multiple visits to Michigan (June, August, October, November)
- Lucie gets her driver's license (4 down, 3 to go!)

