

A Little Federwitz Family

Welcome 2024!

Nathan and Sarah Federwitz





Happy New Year!

With the dropping of a ball and blast of fireworks, one year changes to the next. We leave behind a year filled with changes, accomplishments, and growth. In this letter we want to share some of the biggest events of our past year as well as share our plans for 2024!

Reflections

The start of 2023 saw the second half of Sarah's deaconess internship at the Perry Lutheran Homes. The experiences of her internship not only grew Sarah's "diaconal formation" as she prepared for graduation, but also helped prepare her for her future as a missionary. She received her Masters in Deaconess Studies in May 2023. After joining Lutheran Bible Translators, she became a commissioned and rostered deaconess in the LCMS. Nathan also accepted a call to Lutheran Bible Translators with his Director of Church Ministries certification.



Graduation

In connection to our new jobs with LBT, Nathan was assigned to work at JAARS (Jungle Aviation and Relay Service) where he is receiving missionary pilot training. He was eager to begin flying again. He now flies about four flights per week! It is encouraging for him to be flying again and working towards the goal of flying as a missionary overseas.

Perhaps the biggest change 2023 brought us was the birth of our son Enoch. Since his arrival in late October, we have been so blessed to love and care for him. He has grown quickly and learns more about life every day. We have loved seeing his personality start to show. Of all that 2023 brought us, we are thankful for him most of all!



A happy baby

The final big news from 2023 is that Nathan reached and passed his first stage check at JAARS. This is a flight where another instructing pilot can assess whether Nathan's performance is at the level that it should be for the stage he completed. Nathan's successful stage check means that he will be able to continue progressing in his program. Praise God that Nathan's training has been going so well!



Nathan flying

Projections

We are looking forward to a busy year. Nathan will be trying to fly as often as possible this year, hopefully with more operational and passenger flights, to continue to gain experience in new areas of flying that he has not received in the past.

Previously, we mentioned that Sarah was going to be taking linguistics classes. Unfortunately, the program she was going to join is no longer an option. Instead, she will be participating in informal programs through LBT. She will be learning more about translation and hopes to get more clarity for how God would have her use her gifts and training to serve on the mission field.

We are most excited that we will be going on our first Partnership Development trip this year! Throughout February, March, and April, we will be visiting supporters, church groups, and churches throughout the Midwest to share about Bible Translation and mission aviation. Our goal is to raise support for our work with LBT. We are looking forward to visiting current and new supporters. This trip is extremely important because we need to raise financial support before we can be deployed overseas.

We have many weekday openings in February, March, and April. If you would like for us to come visit a Bible study, LWML or mission group, mid-week activity, or you individually, please let us know. We would love to visit with as many of you as we can!



Nathan landed on this grass airstrip as part of his training.

Before going overseas, we need to be fully funded financially. We need recurring financial support to carry out our ministry. We also have the expense of Nathan's JAARS training. One-time gifts to Nathan's flight training are a wonderful opportunity to support us as we prepare to go overseas. If you feel so called, please pray about, and consider partnering with us.



Blessings from our little family!

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise for the many blessings of 2023, particularly Sarah's graduation, Nathan's opportunities to fly, and the birth of Enoch.
- Pray for our training: For Nathan as he continues to gain proficiency as a pilot and prepare for the challenges of flying overseas. For Sarah as she continues to learn how God might use her gifts.
- Pray for safety during our upcoming travels and partnership development, that God might lead us to new prayer and financial partners.

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