





Top photo: Jay & I taking one of the guys to the Ceramics festival in our village
Middle left: The dorm staff taking a hot lunch to our guys. Each dorm does this periodically through the month. It's something fun for the students to look forward to.
Middle right: Dorm fellowship a lot of times begins with a fun game. This one was a "human knot" they had to get out of.
Bottom left: Student in the middle is on BFA's varsity volleyball team. They went on to do a clean sweep at the DODEA-Europe boys volleyball. Our Falcons were undefeated this year!
Bottom right: Much of our time here consists around these tables. Whether it's afternoon snack, dinner, or a late night conversation.

A Prayer Newsletter of
Jay & Marnie Starrett
Dorm Parents, Black Forest Academy

Greetings!

It has been 3 months since we've come to Germany and we're feeling at peace, like we belong, natural. This time of the year has all the smells of autumn with aged fruit under the trees and leaves changing colors. Walking through the forest feeling the warm sun and cool breeze, hearing leaves crunching under our feet. Beautiful sunsets with cool evenings.

girlfriends are starting to spring up. Some students are also starting to see now that they are not at a camp and are feeling homesick. With this, they are coming to us more with emotions, wanting to talk, cry and needing hugs. Especially from Mama Marnie!

We've had some great dorm fellowship on Wednesday nights. As a staff we are teaching the purpose of reading scripture and why. Praying to our Father in heaven, as a conversation but also in respect. How to know when God is nudging us to do the right thing or to go the right way in life.

Outside of dorm fellowship, there have been multiple ways to educate these young men. Helping them to develop social skills since many of them have been homeschooled or never been in a group environment. Along with teaching them manners as a group. i.e., How to pass food at a table and hold a knife and fork without looking and eating like a neanderthal! This is a work in progress.

As for Marnie and I, we could not do this job without your prayers and support. Thank you! This is not a job for the faint of heart. God gives us the endurance and strength for each new day. We've not only been learning the German culture but the cultures of the students and how to relate to them individually by being a chameleon with each social style, at any given moment.

We have conversations about their relationship with God, friendships, what colleges to apply to, when to have girlfriends, to politics. With all of this, we have been recalling our past experiences parenting our children and mentoring some of your kids as well.

Marnie has also enjoyed contacting some of the parents via email, telling them how much we enjoy their son. With 18 high school boys, group prayers at bedtime are not always deep and meaningful. But there are times when we hear their hearts and what's going on within their families' lives.

Many of our guys hold US passports but have been raised in multiple different countries. We have others who have passports of a couple countries. Things happening in the world are very real to them and are big concerns.



Top photo: We stopped at Burger King after bowling in France. These are four of our seniors.

Middle Left: Poker Night is the highlight of "Dude Week" for our dorm. This is actually called "Dead Week" at BFA as it's the week between sports activities.

Middle Right: Our first Saturday Senior made breakfast. They did such a fantastic job serving something healthy.

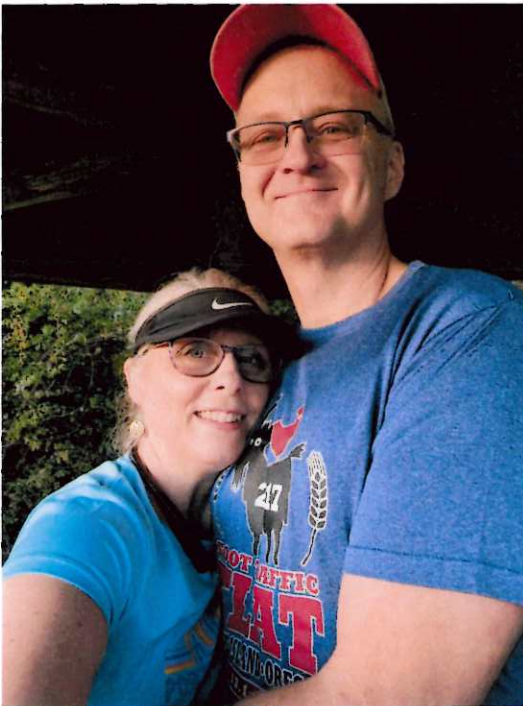
Bottom Left: He had ear infections and might be going ear or hearing, took the boy to the ER and was incredibly grateful they all spoke English! Thankfully no surgery is required just healing.

Bottom Right: After healing from covid (we had 6 outbreaks the first 2 weeks of school) this student looked up to see how to make chocolate chip cookies and asked if Crystal would help him make them. It was his first time to bake!

On our days off, we look for places to explore. These are castle ruins about 20 minute car ride but there are trails to explore leading to it...which we did!

Bottom two photos were taken from the gazebo on the hill 1.5 miles from our house. We had a spectacular sunset hike!





Points of Prayer and Praise:

- We have had one fellowship time that we had 1 who accepted Christ, and 3 rededicated themselves to Him!
- Students have been gracious to us. Giving us grace with our misunderstandings.
- We have been able to connect with a couple who have been able to show us around the countryside and give us great ideas as to where to go and what to see.
- We had four days off and went to Rothenburg where we relaxed and were refreshed. The sights were magnificent!

dorms. This will be a huge blessing to the students!

- Pray for student's lives and families that are affected by the war in Ukraine. Also, Europe is facing huge energy costs. Our utilities have tripled in the last 3 months!
- Prayer for the students that they would continue to open their minds and hearts to the Gospel, and to understand who they are in Christ.
- We continue to rely on the Lord for our financial support through faithful people like yourselves. We are \$350 shy of our monthly needed support. We are praying a few would be able to either increase their monthly giving or have 4 more people join our team at \$100 a month.
- Within this next month we will be looking for a car. Pray that this process will go smoothly. We've heard that this can be a challenge purchasing a vehicle in Germany.
- Continued prayer for the sale of our concrete pump. It would be great to sell it before winter/the new year. Pray that we rest in know God knows the perfect timing of this.

Photos of our recent trip to Rothenburg, the town of many towers! This is the entrance to the town square. Middle left: We got "caught" at the Criminal Museum! The middle ages were a pretty scary time to live. We saw many devices used for torture to get a confession from people. Along with "shame masks" for those who were busybodies, gossips, glutens and so much more! Middle right: Carvings out of sandstone at the cathedral of Jesus praying to the Father. The disciples sleeping and the Romans coming to arrest him. The details are absolutely incredible.

Bottom left: One of many quaint houses built centuries ago that people still inhabit.

Bottom right: This time away was truly refreshing.





We truly appreciate your prayers for us. God is so good in giving us the strength and stamina to do what we have been called to do. He is our Shield and Protector!
For Him Wholly,
Jay & Marnie



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