

## **Ever-Changing Plans**

So much has happened and changed in the past few weeks and months. On March 7, when we sent out our last minor update, we had no idea of the things that God was going to do. Like so many, our plans have been changed as we adjust to the national response to the pandemic. Our date for moving to LaGrange, Wyoming (originally planned for the beginning of May) has been pushed to the end of June. This COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging, but it has also been a good learning experience for us. We are trying to reschedule as many of our March and April plans as possible, but also realizing that much of it will not happen. Some things are lost. On the converse, this has created new opportunities, as well. We have been able to reach people in our community in Michigan in ways that we would not have been able to had our plans remained intact as we intended. God is a great orchestrater, and His timing and plan are so much more beautiful than ours.

At the beginning of May, Nathaniel and Ariana took a box truck and trailer (that was loaned to us from a friend) full of our "nonessential" belongings out to our new house in LaGrange. So many helped while they were there! The truck was unloaded in record time, everything stacked in the house, laundry machines are hooked up, etc. Now we are living with only our essentials. It is amazing what you don't actually need to get by!



We did, however, end up needing a new vehicle. We had been praying and looking for several months, and God decided it was time. The old tan van's suspension finally gave out, and within a week God had provided us with a fancy new navy van, much nicer than we expected for the

price! Thank you so much for praying with us! It is exciting to see God take a "bad" situation and turn it into an encouraging one!



These last few months have also caused a significant disruption in our plans for support raising. We were not able to go to several churches to speak, as we had originally planned. We are still trying to figure out how to get that moving again, including looking at digital options (which have become so much more mainstream lately!). We are currently at 17% for our support, but the Lord has made it so clear to us that this is where we are supposed to be, that we know that He will provide the finances as well.

## Looking Back and Looking Forward

"Looking back" will mean many partings, and processing the end of our time in Michigan. While this may feel sad, it is an important process for us to emotionally transition.

Nathaniel finished his last day working for Inontime on May 22. It was hard to say goodbye to the family that he created at his job, but exciting to know what the Lord has in store for us. The leadership at Inontime has been so kind to our family, and continued to show that kindness throughout our leaving. We are planning on taking a quick trip to out of state to visit some family and friends before we leave. This trip will be shorter than originally planned, but we are eager to get in these last goodbyes with family and friends who live in the East, before we head out West.

The children are still doing schoolwork and coming near to the end. School took a pause for several weeks as we were packing up the house to fill the truck, and as we processed all of our emotions related to the COVID-19 situation. We are now back on track and expect to finish up in the next few weeks. The children are also planning out their last goodbyes with friends here.

In June, our priority is to spend time with people in preparation for our departure from Michigan. This is going to be an emotional month, but we know that the Lord will give us the strength we need to say goodbye to our family and friends who we are leaving behind.

"Looking forward" is the more exciting (albeit intimidating) part of this transition. It is seeing the possibilities and future, and making plans to go meet it! While good byes are always are tough, we are growing in excitement, and very eager to be in our new home, starting the ministry work and getting life configured with new jobs, routines, climate, etc. We were able to reconnect with several friends from our previous time there, and look forward to continuing that as we move there permanently. For those from whom we will be moving farther away, we hope to see as many of you as possible before we go, and sincerely invite you to come out and visit as often as you like.



Our new address is:

5749 County Road 28 Hawk Springs, WY 82217

It has been so encouraging to receive the phone calls, emails, texts, and cards from people over the last few months asking us how

we're doing, checking on our plans, or just sending us encouragement. It is so amazing to watch the team that the Lord is building around this ministry! Thank you!

> Nathaniel, Kara Juliana, Ariana, Cassandra Grant M<sup>e</sup>Rae



## **Please Pray with Us!**

- Praise God for providing a new car and a home for us!
- Praise God for a safe trip out with most of our belongings!
- Praise God for unexpected opportunities!
- Pray that our transition would go smoothly as we move and start everything new.
- Pray that we would be able to see as many people as possible for good byes.
- Pray for additional financial support, and supplemental work until then.

## **Contact Info**

We would love to hear how you are doing and what the Lord has been doing in your lives.

nakamac07@gmail.com N Cell: (307) 286-7555 K Cell: (307) 286-6285

For more information about our mission and project, or to partner with us financially, you can visit: <u>https://tentmakersbiblemission.org/?tbm\_missionaries=nathaniel-and-kara-mcrae-2</u>