

Andrew & Deanna's 2020 Newsletter #2

"I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth."

Psalm 34:1

Greetings from the Friesen family! We hope you are all doing well and staying healthy, and that you are all staying strong in the faith and in your joy. While it can be hard to see the purpose behind much of what is happening in the world, we know that God is faithful, and He hasn't lost control of anything.

What we've been up to...

These past three months have brought us the biggest and most welcome change in our lives, since on April 29th, we welcomed little Eli Merrit Friesen into the world! We don't have words to describe the wonder, awe, and amazement that we feel. God has been so good to us! Eli was born on April 29th, exactly one week overdue. On top of that, the Peace River was flooding, so we were forced to hurriedly drive to the town of High Level and stay there for the full week before Eli was born, since the road to the hospital would be closed if the river got too high. We are glad that we went, since the river overflowed its banks and flooded the town of Fort Vermillion, and many people had to be evacuated. Dozens of homes were destroyed in the flood, and many people are still dealing with the damages that were caused. For us, a few days after we went to High Level, the road between La Crete and High Level was closed for several days due to the high water level.



Our precious baby Eli!

Thanks to Deanna's father, we were able to stay in a condo in High Level, instead of an expensive hotel, which we are grateful for. Because of this, we were relatively stress-free, in spite of the fact that we weren't home. We are thankful to be serving a God who provides, even when circumstances aren't what we would wish for. We are also grateful that my parents were able to make it to La Crete for a few days after Eli's birth, in spite of all the Covid-19 restrictions. While this made things more difficult for them upon returning back to Manitoba, as they had to self-isolate when they got back, they were able to really enjoy their time here, getting to know the latest addition to their family.

In the midst of all these personal life changes, and in the midst of continued restrictions, the work still goes on. We have been able to work a bit more on the studio, and now the only thing left to do is to install the trims and finish soundproofing the door. My dad helped with installing the flooring for the studio, and we are especially grateful to a local supporter who donated the flooring that was needed. Once again we see how God provides graciously and abundantly for all our needs.



Mom and Dad with their newest grandchild!

Since we are first-time parents, it has been quite an adjustment for us, although we have nothing to complain about. Our baby is healthy, happy, and sleeps well for the most part, so learning to adjust has not been very difficult. We are just starting now to get back into the swing of things. I have not been able to keep up with producing the radio program *Kjikj Nopp!* quite every week, but now that we have started finding our rhythm again I'm able to get back on track. We have also

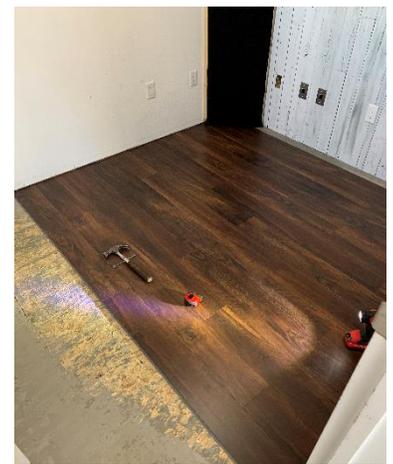
made some progress on our own recording project! We have chosen a list of songs to record, and have started working on how we want the songs to sound, which instruments to include, and so on. We are very excited to get this project underway!

On top of this, I have also been tasked with handling the paperwork for the local radio station that we are working towards setting up, although with the Covid-19 restrictions still in place it is difficult to move things along quickly, since all government offices have limited their hours and staff to a minimum. This simply means that paperwork that isn't deemed 'essential' is going to take longer than it normally would. But this is not a reason for worry, since we can still broadcast online, and we are now working towards developing an app for the radio station, so that people can listen on their phones.

Our future plans...

As was already mentioned, we have made some headway on our own personal album, so part of our plans are to keep working on it, to hopefully have everything recorded before the year's end. If possible we'd like to have the album done by then, but we can't make any promises.

We are also planning to head to Manitoba for the month of August, as long as the travel restrictions aren't too tight. Our plan is to help with the renovations at my parent's house, as well as any other projects that come up. While there we may also do some ministry related events, if the restrictions in Manitoba ease up enough for that to happen. There is so much that is uncertain at this point, so our plans may change yet. However, we are trusting that God will still use us to accomplish His purpose, whatever that purpose may be. We just want to be willing servants that are obedient to His leading.



The new flooring looks great!

Thank you all for your continued support! Since social gatherings have been limited, it's difficult to set up fundraisers, but because of your support and God's faithfulness we are able to

keep working. Many blessings to you! This is a huge answer to prayer for us. Please continue to pray for us as we work to further God's kingdom.

Prayer and Praise...

- Praise God for His faithfulness in every circumstance, and for how He has provided for all our needs.
- Praise God for the safe arrival of our precious baby boy!
- Praise God for everyone who has continued supporting us through prayer and finances, even during this uncertain time of restrictions.
- Praise God for how restrictions here in Alberta have eased up in the last few weeks, that churches are able to have regular services again. This is a huge blessing that we can't take for granted!
- Please pray for our upcoming trip to Manitoba. Pray that we would be able to go as planned, and not have to cancel because of restrictions. Also pray that we'd be able to be a blessing while we are there.
- Please continue to pray that we'd be able to get a Low German radio station set up in La Crete. Pray that we will be able to get the necessary paperwork, even with the slowness of the government offices.
- Please pray for our church's upcoming Youth Group campout, which is happening on the weekend of July 24th to 26th. Pray for Deanna and myself, as we are the youth leaders, and pray for safety and an enjoyable weekend for everyone involved.
- Please pray for those who have been displaced due to the flooding here in northern Alberta!



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For more information about Andrew and Deanna Friesen, you can email them at

andrewanddeannafriesen@gmail.com, or visit their website at

<https://www.andrewanddeannafriesen.org/>

For more information about Diedrich and Nettie Friesen, you can email them at

diedrichandnettiefriesen@yahoo.ca, or visit their website at

<http://www.dfriensens.org/>

Also, check us out on Facebook or Instagram!

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If you wish to donate to Andrew and Deanna or Diedrich and Nettie, you may go to multinationmissions.org, click on the Donate page, and scroll down to where you find them listed.

Thank you so much for your encouragement and support in this ministry. May God bless you richly. Working together, that the world may know who Jesus is!