

PARTNER PERSPECTIVE

A publication for friends and supporters of Scott and June Hendren, serving with Campus Crusade for Christ at FamilyLife

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From Our Home to Yours



It seems like a long time since we've given you an update on our world. And it feels like a lot has happened since then. First, an update on Kyle's heart. In our email updates, we shared that the procedure went well. Kyle came through it great. But, unfortunately, we have now confirmed for sure that the procedure did not work. Even though the doctor thought he got the right spots and got them thoroughly, three months out Kyle is still experiencing episodes of SVT...about once every 3-4 weeks. We're all disappointed, of course, but he continues to manage it pretty well just as he did before the procedure. So we're basically back to where we were before. He can deal with it, we can try medication or we can try the procedure again. Kyle isn't interested at all in going through the procedure again. So, again, please pray for wisdom. And, we wouldn't mind if God just chose to heal him either!

More big news. Finally, as of this week, our house is officially for sale! We've spent the past few weeks de-cluttering, cleaning, and fixing all those little things we've been putting off. After all the work, we joke that we sure do like our house! We had hoped to get this underway long before time for school to start, but that didn't happen. Honestly, we're not sure at this point whether to pray that the

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Storm Preparedness

As I write this I am sitting here at my desk late one afternoon waiting out a rather fierce thunderstorm that is blowing through west Little Rock. A jolting clap of thunder shook the building just as an email from Dennis Rainey arrived in my inbox.

You may or not be aware that the Rainey family has endured a particularly difficult trial over the past few weeks. Dennis & Barbara's daughter, Rebecca, gave birth to her first child (grandchild number 14 for the Rainey family) out in Colorado. From the very beginning, the doctors knew there was a problem. Dennis & Barbara hopped a plane to Denver and the rest of us followed along via email for the next week. Little Molly was born with a malformed vein in her head. It had something to do with the regulation of blood flow to the brain. Severe irreversible brain damage had already occurred and the prospects for survival, even with the ensuing multiple surgeries to try to correct the problem, were dim. Because far too much blood was being diverted to her brain, the rest of her organs were not getting the oxygen they needed. Only a ventilator was keeping her alive.

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Hayley (right) with friends on a choir trip to St. Louis earlier this summer. She came home with zero pictures from her mission trip to Cleveland! "But, Dad, we were working all the time!"



Kyle (right) getting the 'half-time talk' with his teammates at a game during the State Cup competition in early June. Kyle's teammates chose him to captain the team for the cup.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for peace and wisdom as we continue to walk through the heart issues with Kyle. He's doing great, but it is still a little frustrating.
- Please pray for God's will to be done in his timing with regard to the possible sale of our home. We're just taking things one step at a time.
- We're in the midst of planning for the ministry's next fiscal year which starts in September. For a variety of reasons (including the economy) both conference attendance and donations have been off a bit this past year. We need to adjust accordingly.



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Jake and Rebecca, this twenty-something couple, were suddenly faced with a huge decision. In just a matter of hours, they went from the joy of expectation as their first daughter was born to the agony of seeing their gift from God hanging onto life. One of life's severe storms slammed into this young family.

Family gathered from around the country in support. Specialists were consulted. Options were weighed. Prayers were offered up to God. Praises were lifted. I wish I had more space to share all the details. (You can read more on Barbara's blog at www.familylife.com/emptynest. Click on *June* under *Posts from the Past* on the left hand menu.) After enjoying to the fullest just the few days they had with her, Jake and Rebecca released Molly to go back home to her Heavenly Father.

Where do we turn when the storms come? Some of us have been blessed in that we've not had to weather that many storms in life. Others have had far more than their share. It's said that there are only two types of people in the world...those who have endured pain and loss and those who will. We can be certain that the storms will come. It's up to us to choose how we respond and to whom we turn.

Back to the email. What's the connection? The email just happened to be from a couple in the northeast who had been through a similar trial in their lives and in their marriage. They were expressing their appreciation for someone having built into them and having shown them where to turn in times of difficulty. Here are portions of the email:

Dear Dennis,

...I sit here in tears as I read your e-mail about your Granddaughter Molly and our hearts ache for you and your family. Your e-mail brings back all the memories of four years ago on August 2nd when our son, Isaac, was born and went home to be with Lord two short hours later. I wanted to pass on that God does have a plan for Molly's life and He will fulfill all the promises that he made to you and your family about Molly. We have seen this first hand. God promised us that Isaiah would lead many men to Christ. Isaiah's story has been the testimony that brought several people to trust in Christ...

...You do not know how much God has used Familylife to change our marriage and my life personally (I accepted Christ at our first conference we attended 5 years ago, and Megan did a few weeks later), because without Christ and the principles that we have learned at the conferences we truly don't think our relationship would have made it through this trial God placed before us...

With Prayers and Love, Jim & Megan

It's stories like this out there—stories that we often never get to hear—that keep us going in ministry. It seems like a small thing sometimes. We do marriage conferences. Nothing particularly earth-shattering about that. But at those conferences two things consistently happen. People are introduced to the Savior and people are taught God's principles for marriage. I'm sure this couple had no idea the storms that were ahead when they attended that Weekend to Remember conference five years ago. But I have to wonder how many more couples much like them attended an event this past year and received a gift that will change their lives. How many will attend next year? Candidly, it probably won't be as many as we'd like! It's frustrating sometimes that we can't reach more. But we're called to be faithful to reach those we can.

Thanks for standing with us in this ministry. Thanks for your prayers. And, for those who support us financially, thank you for being so faithful particularly through what continues to be a challenging economic climate. We know that there are many other things you could do with the gifts you send each and every month in support of our family and our work. We are blessed that God has called you to be in the trenches with us. Every Jim and Megan that our ministry reaches, you have a part in that.

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house sells or that it doesn't! We're just praying for God's timing one way or the other and contentment while we wait and see what he does. For now, we continue to make the drive back and forth across the river.

Can you believe school starts in a couple of weeks?! The kids are ready to go back, I think. We opted not to take any sort of "vacation" this summer, so they've been pretty bored. Hayley is still working, Kyle is working out and playing as much soccer as he can, and they're both finishing up summer projects for school. We enjoyed watching some of the best youth soccer teams in the nation last week as the US Youth Soccer National Championships were held in North Little Rock. Man, it was hot! There's probably more to share, but I'm out of space for this month. Hope your summer has been a good one! Christmas will be here before we know it!!!