

# Baptist Children's Home

Dear Friends,

Water. Rain. Summer thoughts.

Refreshing. Thirst quenching. Life-giving. Drenching. Mesmerizing. Cleansing. Water has been a part of many significant experiences in our home this month.

Delaney and James both enjoyed an action packed week at summer camp. Delaney loved the waterfront activities and the challenge course. She was also dunked in the lake in order to receive the package we sent. **James had his deepest thirst quenched as he gave his heart to Jesus, the Living Water!** What fabulous news he had for Brian when he was picked up after camp that Saturday morning!

A week later **Nathan, James, and Grace all gave their testimonies and were baptized** along with 15 other people from church. What a privilege it was for Brian to participate in that significant event in the lives of each of these kids. Buried to self, alive to Christ...the baptismal waters represent growth as each one walks a path toward maturity.



Brian baptized Grace, Nathan and James

We spent one really fun day at the Lake Michigan beach watching the amazing Gary Air Show with friends. Beautiful views over the water and fascinating tricks in the sky ended just as the raindrops started to fall. Another day we enjoyed a pool party with our life group. The kids showed off all their best moves on the diving board, and we were especially thankful to have our own personal lifeguard (Brian) on hand so we could say "yes" to both of these events.

Summer sports require full water bottles as we head out the door. Swim lessons are completed, but we are still enjoying soccer and taekwondo. Delaney recently passed her test and is now officially a yellow belt, no longer a newbie!

We fill up those water bottles for evenings out, like when we watched the fireworks, attended a concert in the park, or for summer bike rides. Paint brushes soak in water after projects. Sprinklers refresh us on hot days, and on several days this month, the rain cooled us down. The boys took water bottles along for an afternoon of kayaking on the Elkhart River. But that day Brian got more water than he bargained for when he turned his kayak upside down, drenching himself and losing his phone in the process. Thankfully, he was due for an upgrade and is enjoying his new phone.



Delaney at the concert by the fountain in South Bend

Tomatoes, peppers, zucchini, raspberries, and green beans are bursting with the taste of summer sun and plenty of rainfall. It has been fun to watch our garden ripen and taste the produce. But even better is to watch our **children grow and mature as they form new healthy habits, volunteer, contribute to the wellbeing of others, and gain new life skills.**

Thank you for your prayers to the Living Water on our behalf,

*Brian & Stephanie Karlik*

Nathan (16), Delaney (16), James (14), and Grace (10)



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