

the  
**Breznau Family**

Declaring and Displaying God's Unstoppable Love

**Our Miracle Gift!**

After five miscarriages and an extended season of secondary infertility, we thought our hopes of having another child would never be realized. But by the grace and power of God, Carson Michael Breznau was born on Oct. 21, 2016, at 21 inches long and 8 lbs. 5.3 oz. He is healthy and growing stronger and plumper by the day! He has beautiful blue eyes and a patch of strawberry blonde hair.

We praise God for displaying His kindness in giving us this wonderful, miraculous gift.

Fun Factoid: He was, in part, named after Dr. D.A. Carson, a humble and wise scholar-theologian-pastor, for which we are thankful.



**Taking Fresh Steps of Faith**

After three fruitful years of ministry in Grand Rapids, Michigan (I served as Lead Pastor of North Park Baptist Church), God confirmed through much prayer and counsel that we were to take a step of faith into a new role on God's mission. We departed in mid-November for the warmer slopes of North Carolina, where Stephanie's family resides. We are currently living in her parent's spacious home as we explore possibilities in doctoral studies, church planting, or another new direction in pastoral ministry. Within just one week of our arrival God provided a ...



**Big Days in 2016**

**7<sup>th</sup> Birthday:**  
**March 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Our ever-energetic and creative Hudson William turned 7 years old!

**4<sup>th</sup> Birthday:**  
**February 6<sup>th</sup>**

Our beautiful, ballerina princess Everlynn Sarah turned 4 years old!

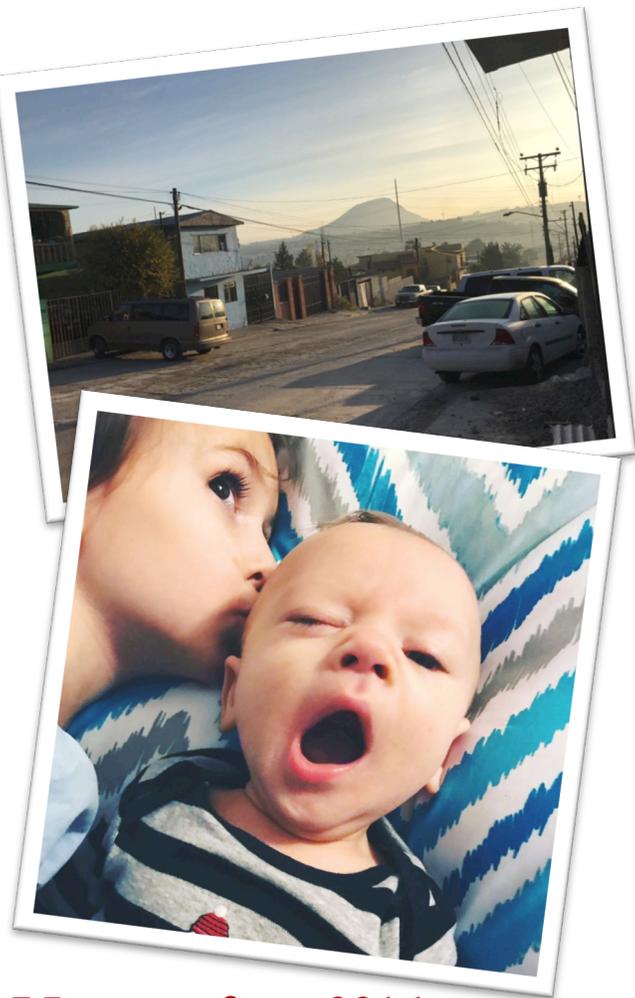
**Our Home:**  
**November 31<sup>st</sup>**

We closed on the sale of our own home in Comstock Park, Michigan!

## Taking Fresh Steps of Faith (cont.)

...job offer for me to assume the role of Staff Pastor and Missions rep. for two joint mission organizations: LifeChange Action | MissionTalk, which are led by a good friend of mine. This part-time role grants me the opportunity to prepare video-devotionals for 27 staff members, provide counseling and prayer support, engage with ministry donors and partners in the USA, and travel to Mexico and potentially India. My first trip to the orphanage and two ministry centers in Tijuana, Mexico was just a few weeks ago. I had a fantastic time leading a renewal retreat, visiting orphans, counseling staff members, and surveying the ministry.

We are so thankful to Christ for His provision during this unique, exciting season. We have some uncertainty about the future and many prayer requests. But we know God is faithful and worthy of our full trust. Thank you so much for all your prayers, love and encouragement! ~ Michael



## 7 Lessons from 2016

Here are seven simple lessons God impressed upon us over the past 12 months. We hope these short points are also light for your path as you enter the exciting New Year!

1. Our joy and approval are found in Jesus Christ alone, not in affirmation or acceptance from people.
2. We can't worry about what everyone else may be thinking, but simply and boldly be who God has designed us to be.
3. Learn who you are. Who you are should shape what you do, rather than what you do shaping who you are.
4. Ministry skill-effectiveness often does not equate to ministry heart-faithfulness.
5. Being faithful to God isn't determined by our location but by our obedience.
6. We must be entirely God-dependent not self-reliant.
7. A pastor can pour his life into the lives of the people he is shepherding, but most of all the people need the life of Jesus far more than they need his life. So give them Jesus. Don't let them think for a moment that you're the savior they need. Only Jesus can be their Savior.





“The earth is the Lord’s, and all it contains, the world and those who dwell in it.” (Psalm 24:1)

**Q:** What three words would you use to describe yourself?

Hudson: “Funny! I like telling jokes. Loving. Creative...because I like to make things.”

Everlynn: “Happy! Grateful. Friendly...I like making new friends.”

Hudson: "because I have x-ray vision and I don't want to spoil my surprises by seeing all the presents through the bags you have them in."

Everlynn: "I love babies. They are my favorite animal."

*Our Family Circus*

Hudson: "I want to go to the store and buy a LOT of books so I can tell everyone, "I am rich in books."

Hudson: "I just want to warn you that I can't go in your bedroom until after Christmas."  
Me: "why not?"

*Stay in Touch...*

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Summer Fun!

**Joni Eareckson Tada’s ministry, Joni & Friends, holds family camps across the USA each year and we were able to attend one this past July!**

We were amazed that Joni and her husband chose this particular camp as their “visit location” for 2016. The week was filled with fun, encouragement, worship, prayer, and new friends!

*“Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.”*

*- James 1:17*