

Erickson Family Update

April - May 2018

"I lift up my eyes to the mountains—
where does my help come from?"

My help comes from the LORD,
the Maker of heaven and earth."

Psalm 121:1-2



Eliane, Liana and Timea Erickson

YWAM Gleanings for the Hungry
Dinuba, CA

THANK YOU for your continued support and love for our family and the ministry God has called us to here in Dinuba, California. Even though we have gone through a lot over the past years, I consider myself incredibly blessed, and God never fails to encourage me when encouragement is needed. Today's verse of the day on my phone is Romans 8:18 "Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later." Yes and AMEN to that.

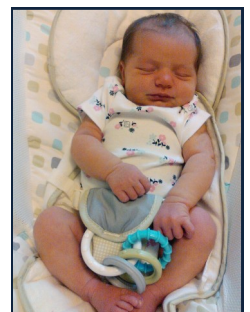
Once again, the last few months flew by quickly. **April** brought some special highlights and visitors from different parts of the world.



Our dear friends Thomas and Anita from Switzerland (image to left) spent a few days with us the beginning of April. The day after their departure, my friend Sasha (image to right) from New Hampshire flew in for a week. Sasha and I had met at Gleanings during my DTS in 2008. It was a special blessing to reconnect with friends and to spend some time with them going on hikes in Sequoia National Park and visiting the Fresno Zoo.



April 13, our beautiful niece and cousin, **Luna Sage Lewis** (image to the right), was born healthy and strong. Thank you for your prayers!



On April 28th, **Timea turned three**. We were blessed to have Caitlin with us again, organizing an amazing birthday party for her. Caitlin did an outstanding job decorating the house and Timea's birthday cake with beautiful butterflies. Timea had a fun day even though the birthday party woke her from an unplanned nap, which she found rather upsetting at first...



Fun Family Facts

Liana: "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

Me: "A grandma."

Liana: "A ballerina."

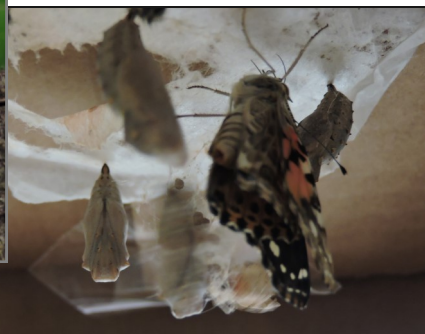
Timea: "A butterfly."



We found and were given some caterpillars and it was great to watch them grow and transform into butterflies. What an



incredible Creator we have! I used this process as an illustration during a summer theme devotion



with the title *"The God of all things can be trusted with all things"*.

Ministry and next steps

The staff at Gleanings spent a week in April doing some strategic planning for the ministry. It was interesting how God highlighted relationships at the core of everything we do - first our relationship to God, and then to each other. It was good to have this time as a staff to connect, be challenged, reflect and think about the vision and mission of Gleanings.

Personally I feel led to stay at Gleanings for another season, possibly one more year. I'm still serving part-time in the office, and this month I get to meet with a summer staff once a week to encourage her and support her in her time here at Gleanings. Another next step for me is to apply for US citizenship. I sent in my application and look forward to learning more about this country and its history in the near future.

Liana and Timea are doing well. They love to swim in the pool, go to gymnastics and play with their friends. Liana's first year at preschool has ended, and this month both girls will be going to the same school for the summer program. Timea is starting with two mornings a week and Liana continues with three.

Prayer requests:

- May was a difficult month for me emotionally, but God carried us through and I had more physical energy to manage daily tasks. I'm thankful for people who love us and carry our burdens with us.
- My desire is to be at my best physically, emotionally and spiritually. Pray for strategies, healthy balance, wisdom and discipline to improve in these areas.
- A capable person to take over my responsibilities in the office. I'd like to have more capacity to invest into other areas of the ministry that God has been putting on my heart.
- The next steps and favor as I pursue US citizenship.
- That God would provide for all my girls' needs since losing Randy has left such a big void in their lives. May God be Father to the fatherless as He has promised!



Thank you so much, and may the Lord bless you as only He can!