Overby Odyssey

November 2025
beonetogether.com/give/scott-and-heather-overby
vdm.org/missionare-weltweit/AC561000

Dear friends and family,
As the end of 2025 quickly approaches, we wanted to take a moment to update you on our family, ministry, and the ways God has been working here in Germany. We are so thankful for your prayers, encouragement, and partnership in what He's called us to do.



Foster Care
This spring, we had the privilege of loving and caring for Alexander. We welcomed him into our family when he was just one day old and cared for him until he was placed in an adoptive family. As with every baby, we grew very attached, and for several reasons, saying goodbye this time was especially difficult, particularly for Heather.



For the past five months, we have taken a break from foster care in order for some emotional wounds to heal. Now, we're ready and waiting for the next little one God brings our way. Thank you for your prayers and encouragement as we continue serving as short-term emergency foster parents here in Germany.

Teaching and Coaching
I (Scott) am now in my fourth year teaching at **Black Forest Academy (BFA)**. During my first three years, I taught Physical Science and Math Core 1 and 2, but this year I've transitioned to teaching only Algebra 2. It's been a wonderful shift! While I miss some of my former classes, having just one prep—four sections of Algebra 2—has made life much simpler. Teaching science was stretching and rewarding, but math has always been my true home (this marks my 20th year teaching math!).



Another big change this year: after three years as an assistant coach for both cross-country and track (working with the distance runners), I stepped into the **head coach** role for cross-country. My first season brought a steep learning curve with all the administrative responsibilities, but it was also a tremendous joy.
Our boys' team entered the season as the favorite to win our division championship. More importantly, our goals were to *glorify God first, encourage each other second,* and *run fast third.* We finished third overall at championships, but I believe we met our top two goals completely—and that made the season a huge success.

Heather's Counseling and Home Ministry
Heather has always had a unique gift for connecting with women and offering support and care, and she has always wanted to become a counselor. Recently, through Be One Together, the opportunity arose for her to begin working



toward her own certification in Biblical Counseling. It's been exciting to see her both learn and apply what she's studying.



Our home has truly become a hub of ministry. On any given day, people are coming and going—friends of our kids dropping by, our Monday night Bible study, Stanley's Sunday night Bible study, and Thursday dinners when Stanley's girlfriend joins us. We even hosted a pancake breakfast for the cross-country team! In addition, Heather meets regularly with women from the community—often at least one each day—walking alongside them in encouragement, prayer, scripture, and truth.

Travels

Even though it was technically a "stay-in-Germany" summer, we ended up traveling quite a bit!



In June, I flew to Oregon for a whirlwind weekend as my 2004 Willamette University track team was inducted into the school's Hall of Fame. Reconnecting with friends I hadn't seen in 20 years was both surreal and deeply encouraging.

Heather and Holly traveled to Weimar for a reunion of the Mom's Ministry that Heather helped start back in 2012. It was a heartwarming time of reconnecting with dear friends—and even meeting a few moms Heather hadn't expected to see, including one refugee she supported through doctor's appointments and served as a birth coach (doula) for. That reunion hug was unforgettable! Heather and Holly capped off the trip with a few days in Prague for a special mother–daughter getaway.



Later in the summer, Heather joined a group of Christian women for a 6 day trip to England, visiting the Cotswolds, a Jane Austen tour, and a C.S. Lewis tour—a refreshing and memorable experience.



Stanley also traveled alone to Oregon for our nephew's wedding. The trip gave him a glimpse of post–high school life and the chance to get his learner's permit. He returned to Germany with my parents, Steve and Sue, who stayed with us for several weeks. Stuart wrapped up his school year at the very end of July, and once he was finished, we took my parents to Bodensee, Ravensburg, and Neuschwanstein Castle—a wonderful (if rainy) family trip.

Life at Black Forest Academy



BFA is celebrating its **70th anniversary this year**, and one of the most exciting projects underway is the **new dorm building**. In August 2023, BFA began the process of replacing two aging dorms. God provided a building right here in Kandern—just 250 meters from the school!

The total cost is projected at €9.2 million, and already €7.3 million (nearly 80%) has been provided. The building has been purchased, renovations are underway, and the goal is to open the dorm to students in **August 2026—completely debt-free!**

If you'd like to be part of the team helping us cross the finish line, you can give here: bfacademy.de/give

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Family Updates



Stanley (12th grade)

Stanley is in his final year at BFA, and we're experiencing many "lasts" as we prepare to launch him next year. His current plan is to live in Oregon for a gap year while interning at Good Shepherd and working (possibly at Timberline). He ran cross-country for the first time this fall, serves on the BFA worship team, and helps lead worship nights with other students. He's also in a serious long-term relationship with a lovely young lady, and they're prayerfully navigating what life after BFA will look like.



Holly (10th grade)

Holly is learning to navigate shifting friendships and discovering her leadership voice. She leads a grade 10 lunch Bible study on Mondays and served as the cross-country team manager this year. She was recently accepted to the **Romania Spring Break Service Project** and is excited to serve God in that capacity! She loves to sing and play musical instruments like her older brother.

Stuart (7th grade)



Stuart is growing in creativity and independence. He recently got his own desk and loves writing and creating signs for his "Narnia Cave." He's a loyal friend, full of imagination, and well-loved by his classmates.

Samuel (4th grade)

Samuel is in his final year of elementary school here in Germany and will start middle school at BFA next year. He's learning what it means to be a leader and to show kindness even when others don't. He loves the extra freedom that comes with being a fourth grader—walking to friends' houses across town and playing baseball with his buddies after school.

Prayer Requests and Needs

- Successful **passport renewals** over Christmas break, followed by **visa renewals**.
- Provision for **plane tickets** to visit the U.S. in summer 2026.
- **Housing and a van** for our time in Oregon (July 2026).
- **Housing, car, and work** for Stanley from August 2026–July 2027.
- **Funds for Holly's Romania trip** ($1,300 total).
- Wisdom and provision regarding our **2007 van**, which is nearing the end of its life.
- Continued funding for the **BFA Dorm Project** – bfacademy.de/give
- New staff members for BFA – bfacademy.openapply.com

Contact Information
Please note: our Skype number is no longer active. You can best reach us via email, Google Chat, Zoom, or WhatsApp.

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If you'd like to join our **WhatsApp prayer group**, send us a message and we'll add you.

As always, **thank you** for your continued support. We couldn't do this without your prayers and financial partnership. We're excited to see what God will do in this next season as we wrap up our last year with Stanley at home and embrace the new adventures ahead. Please let us know how we can be praying for you as well!

Serving Him in Germany and supporting missions around the world,
Scott (for Heather, Stanley, Holly, Stuart, and Samuel)

