The birds of the air come and perch in its branches.
- Matthew 13:32

Issue 45 May 22, 2021

In this issue: Celebrating Joseph Emmett's baptism – p. 1-2

Outdoor worship services bring us together again – p. 3-13

The family of God grows!

On Sunday, April 25th, Joseph Emmett was baptized into Christ!



















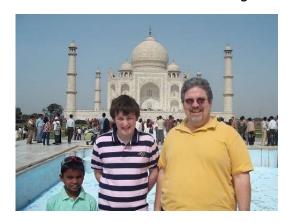






Danny Emmett shares, "Joseph came to us from India as Monu. We saw one photo of him and decided he belonged in our family. We chose his first name, Joseph, to honor a man who had a tremendous impact on our family, Joe Woods.

Daniel, our oldest son, and I traveled to India to meet Joseph Monu and bring him home. He was so excited to meet us for the first time. There were many firsts on that trip. It was the first time Daniel and I had traveled outside the United States. It was Joseph's first time in a hotel. His eyes were so big, he was amazed by everything. He and Daniel hit it off right away, even though Joseph did not speak much English. One of my favorite memories of our time in India is the two of them, wearing socks, sliding up and down the hallway in the hotel! We were also fortunate enough to visit the Tai Mahal.



When Joseph arrived in the U.S., our family and the church welcomed him with open arms. As English was not his first language, Joseph struggled with reading. During the past year and in the middle of the pandemic, Joseph and I have had many conversations about God, Jesus, and the Bible. We read and prayed together. Joseph took the initiative and sought out others to help him understand more. He has a deep desire to learn about the Bible and to share with people what God has done and is doing for him. Our family is proud that he had made Jesus the Lord of his life and we look forward to seeing how God will use Joseph to advance His kingdom." Amen—welcome, Joseph!

"Church" is not a building...

...God's church has always been His people, and wherever the people of God meet, that's church! As the weather warms up, we've begun meeting on alternate Sundays in the parking lot at Meadowcreek. Some people remain in their cars, others sit or stand outside, but everyone there enjoys the return to in-person fellowship, singing, teaching and praying together in the open air. Here are some pictures from recent parking-lot services—

On March 21st—









































































Easter Sunday, April 4th –



















































April 18th –







(With thanks to Leonor Netzahuatl for these pictures, since the usual photographer was out of town)

And, finally, Mother's Day, May 9th—









































































































As the pandemic shows signs of retreating and the CDC eases some of its recommendations, outdoor services in Meadowcreek's parking lot every other Sunday, weather permitting, should become safer and easier. Masks and social distancing can still help us ensure one another's safety, and the outdoor setting is also a definite advantage (although the restroom situation is a little inconvenient). Please pray for God to guide our building committee to just the right place for us to rent or purchase so we can expand our ability to come together as the church has done since the first century, to be "devoted...to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42)!

We welcome news and pictures on interesting personal stories, family group activities, and more. Please send them to Nancy Berry, nberry2@gmail.com. Thank you!

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