Rolling Into 2015

An update from the grover family

Glancing at the photo below you will notice that we have sprouted another member. That is the worthy lad Justin Filizola who has been Meghan's beau of the past half year. They met at the Scum of the Earth church in Denver where Meghan has been working and serving since her move to Denver a year ago. Meghan and Justin not only got to see our new digs here at Casa Shalom this Christmas but also jumped in to lead bilingual carols at our Christmas potluck! We were thrilled to have Leah's parents join us for Christmas as well.

From our last update way back in 2012 you may recall we grovers left Jesus People USA, our home and ministry of two and a half decades, to assist brian's family in Albuquerque, New Mexico, with the caregiving of his father who had suffered a debilitating stroke. Since August the lion's share of that work has been picked up by brian's sister who moved brian's father into her home. So we moved down into Albuquerque's Casa Shalom community which is a cooperative run by East Central Ministries (www.eastcentralministries.org).

Amelia is finishing up her senior year of high school with us here in Albuquerque and making plans for the next phase of her life. This year she's been in a number of musicals (including Peter Pan, Seussical, and Footloose) and competed in Chicago with her high school's choir. Now she's carving out some time for employment to create some savings to facilitate moving back to Chicago once she graduates in May.

Graeme started middle school this year and has learned that organization and personal responsibility are just as important as smarts when it comes to doing well in school. Though he still finds plenty of time for his exuberant creativity and imagination and enjoys hanging with his youth group homies.

At church Leah had as much fun as the kids as she cavorted through her own Narnia Chronicles curriculum with them. Then she guided the adults through a Messianic look at Hebrews. For the last couple months she's enjoyed being a page at a local library as well.

In addition to working a full-time night shift at a rehab hospital, brian also found himself back at university with a more than full-time class load pursuing a combination of nursing, ethnology, biochem, and linguistics. A menagerie of academics all of which he hopes to employ in working with indigenous Siberians in the Republic of Tuva (contained within the Russian Federation) as well as with Native Americans here in New Mexico.

Our plans for the future seem to be ever evolving, but we take each step as the grace of God illumines the path before us. We are still devising plans for long-term involvement in Tuva as well as the communities we've found ourselves alongside here in Albuquerque. We are also quite sure our long history with JPUSA is nowhere near an end.

Till we meet again, we are your grovers

