Ryan & Deb Wyss

Many have asked about Elena's health – we would love to update you. Our most exciting news is that Elena's tummy troubles are almost a thing of the past! After working tirelessly on healing up her stomach and intestines for 6 long years, she is in a place of digestive health. And we are CELEBRATING! We went out to eat as a family - a first for us! Although Lena is still not too willing to try new foods (unless it's dessert - ha!), being able to let our guard down in regards to keeping her safe from potential triggers is an amazing feeling! The only wild card in her diet at this point is dairy.

After a trial period using dairy, the doctor will do a final scope (hopefully) to determine her body's ability to absorb and process the protein in milk. We pray for a good final report.

As we've shared this news, a common response has been, "Does this mean you'll be going back to China?" While this tummy news is a HUGE encouragement to us in regards to Elena's health, it is only one challenging aspect of Lena's life-long medical and developmental situation. In August, we received an official diagnosis for Lena. While a diagnosis brings a myriad of emotions, the one I think we both felt most strongly was relief. It is so helpful to have answers! However, with only 200 cases worldwide, the information is limited and also tracks with some of the more severe cases. For that reason, we have chosen to not share her diagnosis publicly for now. We want to allow her to blossom and grow, enjoying exactly who God created her to be, and not place restrictions on her development based on best guesses. We'll be traveling to Washington State this summer to learn from a geneticist who specializes in this syndrome, and to meet other families whose children are affected. She continues to bring joy and sweetness into the lives of those who know her, and she is showing some independence, which has been really fun to watch!

She is now using a tablet which speaks out loud on her behalf, as she pushes corresponding buttons. We're excited to see how this may open up relationships for her! Other areas of concern for Elena at this point are her vision, her hearing, and her ability to process the world around her in a way that is conducive to growth. Pray that her eyes and ears would function correctly, and that she would soon learn to read, as she has an immense love for books!

I now function in a world that was completely foreign to me just a few years ago. And although at first it felt too big and too scary and too complicated, I actually really, really love it. I feel God asking me to dream new, different dreams. I love learning about this world of genetics. It is totally fascinating to me, and although it affects us so personally, I see the beauty in ALL of God's creations in a new and more profound and in just a down right special way. The human body and mind are ABSOLUTELY AMAZING.

Please pray:

We thank God for the blessing of being a family!

Pray we would have wisdom to make wise choices in tough situations.

Ryan & Deb Wyss

NEXT STEPS in JUNE!

There will be a <u>special offering</u> taken on <u>May 21</u> for the Guatemala Mission Trip Fund.

<u>Several items have gathered in the Kitchen</u>. Please check out the wide variety and take what belongs to you home.

If you are interested in joining the <u>AV Tech team</u> please come <u>Thursday</u>, <u>May 25th</u> for pizza and a meeting in the Nehemiah Center at 6 pm.

Mission: Monroe ~ MACC, Monroe Area Community Closet is ready for our help. Please contact Carol Larson ASAP at 558-1475 to volunteer for a shift on Mondays 3-7 pm.

<u>Mission: Monroe</u> has a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center to help with pizza sales at the Concert on the Square series this summer. Proceeds support Family Promise. This is a great opportunity for Life Groups!

<u>Mission: Monroe</u> T-shirts are still available for \$5. Contact Carol Larson, 558-1475.

<u>Milwaukee Brewers game</u> Monday, July 3rd. Game is at 1 pm, we will be leaving at 9 am and will tailgate before the game. Tickets are \$10. Everyone is invited. Limit of 40 tickets. Please sign up at the Welcome Center. Any questions, contact Bernie Roidt at 325-2199.

<u>Play Ball</u>! Sign-up for <u>2017 church league softball</u> at the Welcome Center today!

<u>Step 1</u> – (1 s.) will be offered <u>June</u> 4th at noon in the Nehemiah Center. Lunch will be provided. Sign up at the Welcome Center.

<u>Step 5</u> – (1st s.) "Our Mission" will be <u>June 4th</u> at 6:30 pm in the Nehemiah Center. You will need to have attended Step 4 "Our Equipping" prior to this class. Step 5 is required for those who go on mission trips sponsored by MBC. This session is offered Sunday evening, one time per year.

<u>Step 5</u> – (2nd s.) "Our Mission" will be <u>June 11th</u> at 6:30 pm in the Nehemiah Center. It is recommended that you attend Step 4 "Our Equipping" prior to this class. Step 5 is required for those who go on mission trips sponsored by MBC. Step 5 is only offered once per year.



Sunday, May 21

Lord's Table
Worship Services ~ 9 & 10:30 am, S
Café Service ~ 10:30 am, NC
Sunday School & ABF ~ 9 am (last
Sunday school before summer recess)
Fusion Finale (High School) ~ 3 pm, Sky
Zone & Hu Hot

Ignite (Middle School) ~ 4 pm, LL #106

Monday, May 22

Prayer Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102

Tuesday, May 23

Truck unloading help needed for Watson's ~ place to be determined ~ 5 pm

Wednesday, May 24

Men's Bible Study ~ Noon, LL #102 Guatemala Papa Murphy's Fundraiser for KATW playground equipment

Thursday, May 25

AV Tech Mtg. ~ 6 pm, NC/K Choir ~ 6:30 pm, S Narcotics Anonymous ~ 7 pm, LL #102 Worship Team ~ 7:45 pm, S

Saturday, May 27

NC/K in use ~ noon – 9 pm

Sunday, May 28

Sunday School & ABF recess begins No Ignite or Fusion

Monday, May 29 MBC Office Closed

Tuesday & Wednesday, May 30/31

Garage Sale Fundraiser items may be dropped off/ NC ~ 1-8 pm

Guatemala Garage Sale Fundraiser
June 1 ~ 8 am - 6:30 pm
Guatemala Garage Sale Fundraiser
June 2 ~ 8 am - 3:30 pm

Week of May 14 - 20

Today, Sunday, May 14

Worship Services ~ 9 & 10:30 am, S Café Service ~ 10:30 am, NC Sunday School & ABF ~ 9 am Sanctuary/Nehemiah Center/K in use ~ 2 — 6 pm No Ignite (Middle School) Fusion (High School) ~ 7 pm, LL #106

Monday, May 15

NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE
Prayer Meeting ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102

Wednesday, May 17

Men's Bible Study ~ Noon, LL #102

Thursday, May 18

AV Tech Mtg. ~ 6 pm, NC/K Choir ~ 6:30 pm, S Narcotics Anonymous ~ 7 pm, LL #102 Worship Team ~ 7:45 pm, S

Friday, May 19

Primetimers Pizza Hut Lunch ~ 11:15 am Men's/Kids Hike ~ 5:30 pm leave MBC, 6:00 pm at New Glarus Woods

Sunday, May 21

Lord's Table

Guatemala Missions Trip Special Offering Last Day of Sunday School/ABF's before Summer recess

Last week of Life Groups before Summer Recess

Fusion Finale ~ Sky Zone & Hu Hot, 3 pm – 10 pm

<u>Prayer Topic</u>

Mothers: See themselves through God's eyes

Prayer Focus – Nursery Ministry Ministry Leader – Margie Johnson Please Pray:

- † nursery workers will continue to come forward to help when needed
- † the nursery is a blessing to young parents who want to use it and in turn their focus can be on learning and growing in their faith.

Men's and kids hike Friday, May 19th at New Glarus Woods. Meet at church at 5:30 pm, or at New Glarus Woods at 6 pm. We will be hiking, then cooking hot dogs and s'mores. Any questions contact Bernie Roidt at 325-2199. Sign-up at the Welcome Center.



Sanctuary Renewal Update:

\$17,435 has currently been raised in support for our Sanctuary Renewal Project. Our goal is to raise \$36,713 by September.

Thank you for your continued support!

