



Thankful!

We have so much for which we are thankful! There is no way we would have anticipated the steps in this journey since joining OC as missionaries in April 2006 to arriving here in Seattle this fall. The Lord has stretched our faith, surrounded us with His love, and given us hope. We are so grateful!

As we consider the economic uncertainty on a national level, and we reflect on our relocation costs to move to Seattle, our dependency on monthly support, and our rising personal deficit, it's been tempting to focus on what we don't have. When we do that, we can easily be discouraged. Yet, our loving Father has communicated to me in a personal way: "Be thankful for what you have. Focus on what I've provided – not what you lack." That has been a powerful message. God certainly didn't lead us here to Washington to abandon us. Even in the wilderness, He provided for the Israelites, and He provides all that we need.

He is all we need! This Thanksgiving season, we're extremely thankful...especially for your prayers, encouragement, and financial partnership. God is using you to bless us. Thank you so much!

Here are some things that each of us is thanking God for...

- **Maddie:** for my family, for the opportunity to go on a missions trip to Ensenada in February, for this house we can live in, for the people I've met, that the transition's been great, and that I got in to PNB and that's it's a good ballet school and fun!
- **Doug:** for getting connected at Redeemer Church and to a small group there, for growing friendships with Christian guys at Juilliard, that I've had opportunities to work to pay for school, and that I'm learning a lot on flute and meeting lots of great people and getting to work with them.
- **Deanne:** for supportive friends, for good transitions for our kids this fall, that God has provided us a home here (and that it's big enough to have guests), and that we are finally in Washington – we've been waiting a long time to get here.
- **Dave:** for continued opportunities to assess and coach church planters, that I saw Doug in New York City in September (and Deanne went this month for his first recital), for God's provision of a pastor at Lake Hills Church, that our supporters have pledged over 95% of our monthly need, and for great connectedness with our OC teammates here in Seattle.

"In God we make our boast all day long, and we will give thanks to Your name forever." [Psalm 44:8](#)

Thankfully,

The DeVries Family

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