
KLETKE NEWSLETTER

Volume 15, Issue 1

April/May 2007

A New Start

So much has happened over the last few months, it will be a challenge to fit it all into one update. But here it goes.

First, call day has come and gone and if you have not already heard, Tricia and I are headed to St. John's LCMS in Pembroke, Ontario. Yes, Canada!! We didn't even know that there were still LCMS congregations in Canada until a few months ago and now we are headed up to the great white north. If you can find a Canadian map, locate Ottawa and follow the Ottawa River west-northwest about 90 miles till you find Pembroke. If you get to Petawawa, you've gone too far. St. John's is a very historic congregation, founded in 1891 with a very beautiful and ornate chancel. However, they are also up to date having already started using the new LSB hymnals. Tricia and I do not know much more about the congregation, but all four of us are headed up there in a couple of weeks and we will know more then. We will also have some pictures and will post them online. Please pray for our safe travel.

Speaking of the four of us, the day after call day Tricia went into the hospital and was induced with our second son, Dustin Benjamin Kletke. The labor and delivery were much easier than Dietrich's and lasted only eight hours. Dustin was born on April 27th at 12:06am. He weighed 7lbs 14oz and was 19in long. Tricia and Dustin spent another two nights in the hospital before I brought them home on Sunday morning. What is really remarkable to see is how Dietrich has responded. Although he likes to play rougher than we'd care for, Dietrich gives lots of kisses and pats on the back. We hope this is the beginning of a wonderful friendship. We would like to say thank you to Grandma Kletke for helping us out through the birth and our first week at home with Dustin. Also, thank you to Grandma Bergeron, Aunt Di and Joann who assisted over the next two weeks while I finished school. Your help was absolutely priceless. THANK YOU!! Thank you also to everyone who sent gifts and cards. There were so many that we can't possibly name everyone. Dustin has been incredibly blessed just within his first month. Thank you very much.

And that brings us to about a week ago when I finished school. After three and a half years at the seminary, all of my class work is done. Done!! DONE!! It was a long and difficult year. I knew going in that it

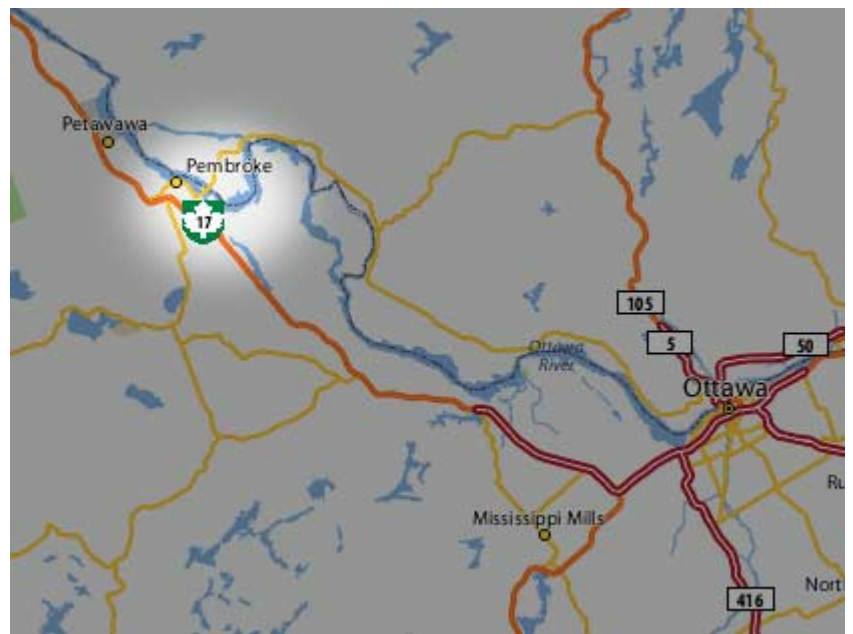
wouldn't be easy; but with a little perseverance and a lot of support from Tricia and family, the task is completed. Although it was a difficult year, it was also very productive and I had some of my best classes. "Man & Woman in Christ" was a terrific class that explored the roles of men and women in the Bible. "Biblical Theology" connected a lot of my OT and NT exegetical courses into one coherent whole. "Revelation" with Dr. Brighton was a wonderful eye opening class into the writings of John. And finally "Proclamation" and "Classics of the Devotional Life" both with Professor Schmitt were incredible courses on how to structure a sermon the classic spiritual autobiographies of the church. There are so many other classes that I would love to take. So much more that I feel I need to know; yet I am very anxious to get out of the classroom and into a church. It will be a great blessing to begin vicarage this fall. Maybe in a few years I will look into working on another degree – slowly. We'll see what Tricia and the boys have to say about that.

Looking forward, the coming summer will be busy. Over the June 1st weekend, we will be visiting Pembroke and trying to find a place to live. June 17th is Dustin's baptism at St. Paul's in Union (We would love to see as many of you for the baptism as possible. Please come!!). June 18th Tricia goes back to work. Just 21st & 22nd is the Kansas Kletke campout. July 8th is our last Sunday in Union. July 14th through the 21st we hope to be in Denver. July 23rd through the 31st we are packing. August 1st we leave for Canada; and on August 26th I begin my vicarage.

Hopefully, we will be able to see most of you at some point during our travels. If not, please plan a quick trip to St. Louis; or better yet, a stop in Pembroke. That is all the latest news from our home. We pray that as the summer begins, you have a safe and wonderful break. God's blessings to you all.

In His Care,
Dan,
Tricia,
Dietrich
& Dustin





Tricia's Corner – “Busy”

Dietrich is so busy and curious right now. He likes to flush the toilet and say “bye bye.” The scariest sounds to me are after it has been really quiet for a while and I hear the toilet flush. I fear what has gone down through our septic system. Yesterday he got a hold of the automatic car opener. He managed to hit the alarm button and really liked that he could make the car horn beep out in the front of the house. It may sound like I can't keep up with him. Well, I can't. He's pretty fast and with a new little one to protect from stabbing fingers and loud cries of “bebe” it's a lot to keep track of.

The last few weeks have been a blur of sleepless nights and dirty diapers. It's a wonder I can put my clothes on right side out. Well, there were some days when I didn't. Yes, it actually happened more than once. I enjoy snuggling with Dustin and reading books with Dietrich. Well, most days. I can't say it hasn't been without struggle. The post partum depression hit me harder and faster this time around with Dustin, but I'm thankful for a helpful and understanding family. I'm also greatly thankful for Dan and his attentiveness. I couldn't have made it these last few weeks without them.

Tricia



O Give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever.

Psalms 118:29
