



## LONG OVERDUE NEWSLETTER

I jokingly say that I am the world's worse missionary when it comes to raising support. I fairly consistently fail to do all the things missionaries are suppose to do in raising and keeping their support—like regular newsletters to supporters. Please forgive how overdue this newsletter is.

By God's grace, many people are still supporting us. Praise be to God and thank you to those who stick with us despite my poor communication.

Those of you who read the prayer blog will recognize much of this newsletter.



Nehemiah & Steffani

## NEHEMIAH & STEFFANI

So the biggest news since our last newsletter is Nehemiah married Steffani Vera. True to Nehemiah's unconventional style, he and Steffani colored outside of the lines with their marriage. There was a small reception limited to close family and friends and an even smaller ceremony.

We are extremely excited to have Steffani as part of the family. She is really good for Nehemiah.

## TEACHING AT ATS

October and November was my last trip to teach at Africa Theological Seminary. Two of my friends Duanne Burton (pastor of Calvary Chapel Garland) and Joey Higgs (my neighbor and running partner) were able to join me in Kenya. Duanne helped me teach New Testament Biblical Theology and Joey helped paint classrooms. I was scheduled to teach in March and April. However, those plans had to change when the government of Kenya shut down all in-person classes in Kenya due to COVID19.



New Testament Biblical Theology Class



## ATS CONSIDERS ONLINE OPTIONS

Many of the students at Africa Theological Seminary (ATS) have limited access to the Internet and to computers. Because of this, ATS did not consider online learning as a viable option. However, as of July, in Kenya all educational institutions are still barred from having in person classes. Hence, ATS is evaluating the option of making a number of courses available online.

It is accepted that many students will not have access to these courses. Although for students who do have Internet access along with devices capable of supporting an online course, it makes sense to allow these students to continue their training while in person classes are barred.

I have been working on evaluating the viability of ATS doing some online classes and how to potentially offer these classes in a more limited bandwidth way.

## COVID19 AND THE COX FAMILY

We are very thankful that so far COVID19 has not too deeply disrupted the Cox family. There have been a number of supporters who have paused their support due to their financial situation making us slightly low on support. The University of North Texas (UNT) Childhood Development Laboratory (CDL) where Donna worked closed. Very providentially Donna was transferred to the Department of Engineering where she is helping with freshman orientations through the summer. At this point it is unknown when the CDL will open; hence there is some uncertainty as to Donna's future with UNT.

While there has been some juggling of jobs and unemployment, all four of the Cox kids plus spouse (at the moment) have jobs. This is quite miraculous considering the current job market.

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## PARTIAL RELEASE OF MY BOOK

During a very providential conversation over tea with James Bryanson last year about the cultural similarities between the Arab world and sub-Saharan Africa, it became clear to James that my research had potential value to better understanding the Arab world. This conversation was the catalyst for me to start repackaging my PhD research into a more accessible format.

As I was writing, it seemed that much of what I was writing had value not only to those working in the Arab world, but also to anyone working cross-culturally with Bible interpretation. Hence, the initial idea metamorphosed into the book *Culturological Hermeneutics: Understanding Interpretation Through the Lens of Culture*, which should help those working cross-culturally identify, better understand, and adjust for cultural differences in Bible interpretation.

I wrote enough to do a partial release for evaluation. So far the feedback has been positive. If you are interested in reading the partial release, let me know.

## PRAISES AND PRAYER

### Praises

- Nehemiah found a good wife
- Duane and Joey were able to serve with me in Kenya
- The partial release of Paul's book
- That all in the Cox family have jobs

### Prayer

- The best way forward for online learning given the constraints of ATS' students
- Truthful and helpful feedback from the partial release of Paul's book
- Donna's job situation going into the fall

## GET INVOLVED

For more information on how to get involved with Paul and Donna visit:

[www.cox-net.com/get\\_involved.htm](http://www.cox-net.com/get_involved.htm)