

Old Providence family,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! I hope this letter finds you all well and that you are getting a break from the summertime heat. When we first moved to Oklahoma, it quickly became the coldest place we have ever lived, with the wind chill hitting -26 degrees last February. This year, we have had almost 50 days of temps over 100 degrees, so this is now the hottest place we have ever lived, as well. Though the context is certainly different, Fort Sill is definitely not that “lukewarm” place referred to in Revelation 3:16!

It is hard to believe, but our time here at Fort Sill is quickly coming to a close. I received orders to report to the Chaplain Captain’s Career Course (C4) in Fort Jackson, SC in January. This is only a 6-month course, but thankfully the family gets to move with me. We won’t know until about March where we will be headed after C4, but our desire is to stay in the Southeast...which probably means we will end up in Korea! Wherever we end up, we know that God will put us where we can have the greatest impact. Although I am not particularly excited to return to the schoolhouse, it will be a welcomed change of pace from the rigors of Basic Training ministry. It will also be nice to be back in the heart of ARP country and be able to visit some of our denomination’s churches.

As you know, our family welcomed our newest member into the world back in July – Mr. Harrison Sill Sutton. He is about 2-1/2 months old now and is doing great. Holly has been super busy keeping up with the demands of an even larger crew than before, but – as always – she has not missed a beat. She is also getting things in place for our exit out of Fort Sill because we plan to leave here around mid-December, which will be here before we know it. She is the glue that holds our crazy together!

Dylan is attending classes at Cameron University in Lawton, OK and preparing to move onto campus there. We were blessed by the fact that every Army ROTC student is provided a free room just for being enrolled in the program. He was also given a board waiver from the program, so he eats for free, too. He says he is enjoying his classes so far, but I’m not sure how excited he is about getting up for that early morning Army PT! Harper Grace is still taking riding lessons and is now taking tap dancing lessons, as well. She loves her baby brother and sister and makes quite the “second mom” when Holly needs her help. Callie Mae is our firecracker. She marches to the beat of her own drum and has earned the nickname of “Miss Independent” around our household. If she sees us do something once, in her mind, she’s got it. She no longer requires nor wants our help! Pray for us all...

Ministry opportunities continue to abound. As we wrap up our time here, we thank God for His protection and provision. We also thank Him for the opportunities He has given us to speak into the lives of others, whether it be brand new Army Trainees or permanent party Soldiers. It will be hard to say good-bye, but we look forward with anticipation to the next chapter that He will call us to.

We are so thankful for all of you and for your continued prayers and support. Please continue to be in prayer for our country and its leaders. Pray also for the men and women who step forward to defend and protect this country. In the words of the Apostle Paul, “I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world” (Romans 1:8). Old Providence’s ministry reaches well beyond the boundaries of Spottswood, Virginia. Love to all, take care of one another, and may the Lord bless you with His peace and grace.

With love in Christ,

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