

A review of 2017 with the Dunham family

January started with the word that the Gomez family would be here on the 6th. The house we had found for them was not ready so they stayed with us their first week or so while we worked to get the bathroom remodeled and a million other things fixed in their house.

On the 6th Paula was asked to be Executive director of Green River Medical Center starting to work on the 9th. People are not asked to take a job like this unless there are major problems, Paula had no clue how many serious problems there were. My grandpa had a story about going down into a water well that was full of rattlesnakes, each rung as he went deeper he would shoot another snake, Paula's job has been like that. The plus side is she can be home for meals and most evenings and she doesn't have to drive a 100 miles every day, as she did while working in in Moab.

In April we were able to escape for a couple of days went to see Bryce and Zion National parks which I had never seen.

May brought a crisis as our adopted niece was taken by family services, we have spent a lot of time praying and agonizing about this. I have gone with my sister and her husband to lots meetings. I pray that God would change hearts that only He can change, so this family could be put back together.

June was a great VBS with a youth meeting each night, service projects during the day. Youth groups from Mesa Hills and South Boulder Bible Churches came and served heroically. The only bad thing for me was the week after they all left I looked out and wondered where all our kids were as attendance dropped to zero, or so it seemed to me. Church and Youth Group attendance have been low this year as our faithful get older and then need to move to be closer to a family member who can care for them. The youth group has turned into the college group so they are gone during the school year. The biggest factor regarding the kids was as Abi began to prepare for Tunisia she wasn't here to invest in them like she had been.

The Gomez's have been starting Bible studies with lots of different Hispanics with the goal to get a Spanish service started. They had a good group coming for a Thursday evening Spanish church service, then the seasonal workers left and the service has almost died. You could pray with us about this. Pray for their visa which seems to be taking forever.

One of Paula and I's goals when we were first married 33 years ago, was to build a cabin on the Green River. Some time back we had acquired a piece of land by the River. Then three years ago our neighbor gave us the old cabin that Paula's great grandfather had lived in. We had drug it across the fence line to our side but didn't have time or money to do more. One of our 2017 goals was to get a foundation poured for it. On August 16th while working on this I ran over a young man with a 15 ton loader. Miraculously he survived and is ok now. He had always told me he was an atheist, but when we saw him in the hospital he told me that when he thought that he would die, he prayed. Now he has an \$85,000 collection of medical bills as a result. As he had no money and no Insurance I told him I would help him. This has been very stressful for Andrew and Paula and I. Now we are trying to get the different entities to settle for about 10% of their original bills. You could pray with us.

Throughout the year Abi has been getting ready to go to Tunisia to reach Muslims for Jesus. Last year she took a vision trip to Tunisia and the difficulties involved in ministering there seemed overwhelming. We began to pray seriously for a team to go with her. She had bought a ticket to leave on the 13th of September. While speaking at a church in Ephraim UT, someone said, "You should meet my brother as he is a missionary, already on the field in Indonesia. This led to a romance and marriage. Now Abi and Craig are preparing to go to Indonesia, We are all very impressed with Craig as he is a very godly talented young man. God answered our prayers, and we are so happy.

Thanks again for your part in all this.

Kirk and Paula

Handwritten signature of Kirk and Paula, written in cursive.