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**Our Johnson family update**

1 message

**UCM Calgary** <kelly.johnson@ucalgary.ca>

Wed, Dec 17, 2025 at 5:34 PM

Reply-To: UCM Calgary &lt;kelly.johnson@ucalgary.ca&gt;

To: Paradise Valley Church of God &lt;pv.chog@gmail.com&gt;

[View this email in your browser](#)**Christmas 2025**

Thank you and Merry Christmas to all our friends who have journeyed with us over the years. We celebrated 35 years of marriage in July, and this coming January will mark 30 years of ministering on our campuses through University Campus Ministries (UCM). Being able to work with such fine colleagues and amazing students keeps us meaningfully engaged. Our team of Art, Daniel, Stephanie, Tina and Logan is top notch. Being able to see young people develop academically and professionally as well as grow in their Christian discipleship is a joy. Our lives have been enriched by your support and encouragement over the years. Thank you!

Here are some highlights from our family this year.

A high point for Erica and Abel was buying their own home! They are loving some extra space and learning the joys of home ownership. Erica continues to work as a Unit Clerk, primarily in the Emergency Department at the Rockyview Hospital, but on several other units as well. Abel is full time Worship pastor at Journey Church and does a great job of leading a growing team. (The team celebrated releasing their first single on Spotify this past year. Check it out – a song called Refuge by Journey Music!) Erica still helps on the broadcast team at the church, and they together provide leadership to a growing Young Adult ministry.

Aimee and Steven are getting a taste of the toddler experience as Kinley is on the move and has lots to explore. Aimee is back working with Hope Cleaning – an organization that intentionally hires and mentors individuals who are struggling to find work. She has also started another part-time job with their church as an administrative assistant for the 0–5-year-old ministry. Steven continues to work towards helping young professionals achieve financial clarity. Participating in and following sports continues to be a significant part of their lives!

Logan and Olivia's highlight of the year (and also one of ours!) was welcoming little Esmond Daniel to their family on April 12th, a month early! Olivia has struggled with various health concerns during and since his arrival, but overall, they are doing well. About a month before

Esmond's arrival they, along with Olivia's parents, bought a home and got settled in. Olivia's sister, Hannah, lives in the basement and has been a huge help with little Esmond this last year. Logan is half time with UCM and half time as youth pastor at our church as well as studying for his Masters in Education. A summer highlight for Logan was leading a youth missions trip to Hay River. Olivia works part time with Mission Global (PAOC) as a mobilization ambassador and is anticipating returning to school in January to finish off her midwifery degree. She and Esmond have enjoyed weekly hangouts with cousin Kinley the last several months.

Courtney is in her third year of Environmental Science at the University of Calgary and learned a lot with her City of Calgary job last summer. She loves taking our dog, Bruno, for walks on Nose Hill near by our house.

Some highlights for Kelly and I this past year ...

Once again leading a house building trip to the Dominican Republic in February – so many rich and meaningful interactions and conversations; Enjoying several Calgary Flames Hockey games with a shared season ticket purchase; Walking with several couples in premarital counselling and attending several other weddings; Weekly family dinner nights at our home; Hosting dear friends, Laura, Fabian and Paco, from Costa Rica in our home the end of May and beginning of June; Two family get aways with our whole crew in June and November; A special visit to Kelowna in the summer to see my brother and his wife and family and their 4 dogs – such a good time; Also got to spend some time with our daughter in law and grandson in Kelowna getting to know her lovely grandparents and seeing some of the places where Olivia spent time in her growing up years; Also in Kelowna enjoyed visits with good friends from years ago; Attending the Drumheller Passion Play to see one of our UCM staff, Stephanie, perform; Annual campout with friends; Summer Hawaii trip with Abel and Erica, and Courtney for part of the time; Some days at the Sylvan Lake family cabin; Kelly's Dad's 90th birthday party; (sadly we also attended and Kelly officiated his second wife, Miriam's, funeral, a few weeks later); Getting to meet and host our "Indian son" Akram's,

fiancée, Mariam, and some of her family and his friends in our home for a special evening celebration.

Kelly's adventures this year included a few days away at Camp Teepee pole with his nephews and brother Dave. He also enjoyed a few days away horse back riding at Blue Bronna Camp and a work trip out to Montreal. A getaway to Kamloops for opening night of Anne of Green Gables musical with Stephanie as Diana Barry was so good. The biggest of his adventures was a study tour to Cyprus and Sicily during his 3-month sabbatical.

I have loved having our little granddaughter, Kinley, overnight and for a day a week since Aimee went back to work. It's been fun having Esmond for several days as well! I continue to enjoy organizing and cooking for our monthly student dinner, The Table. (We regularly have 60 to 90 students attending). Working with my good friend Kham and several other faithful volunteers as well as our "Indian son" Akram is a joy. I am still working part time in Nursing, but the fullness of the rest of my life has meant a decrease in those hours in the last year. A couple nights car camping with Courtney in Waterton and a hike day with Erica are two other special memories from the last year! I am also thankful to once again be meeting with a great group of ladies for Bible Study.

We really are so thankful for the presence of God with Us in all of the years' activities and thankful for each of you in our lives. We always look forward to hearing from you and love any chance we get to stay connected. Once again, Merry Christmas!

Barb for the Johnson family

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