The Brink Connection

phone: 778.242.3484

Introducing Naomi!

We are excited to introduce **Naomi Eliana Renae Brink** to you! She was born on April 15th, weighing 6 lbs 3 ozs. We are so thankful to God for this 4th addition to our family. Naomi means "pleasant, agreeable" or "my delight", and she has certainly been a delight for us, even in our somewhat sleep-deprived state as new par-



ents again. (Eliana means "my God has answered", and Renae "re-born").

It has been fun to watch Silas, Toby, and Fiona start to

interact with their new little sister. Toby likes to rock her in her little chair, and Fiona is quick to alert us: "Baby crying!" Jason is fortunately able to take a few weeks of parental leave, which is helpful as Shannon recovers from the major surgery of a c-section. Please keep her in your prayers for that. You can also be praying for Naomi, as she was born with developmental hip dysplasia. This means her hips aren't formed quite right, and she needs to wear a soft brace for the first 3 months or so to help them adjust.

Prayer Requests

- For Shannon as she recovers from her C-section
- For our family as we adapt to our "new normal", and that Naomi's brace would be effective for correcting her hip problems quickly.
- For the Information Technology team at P2C as they are running one man short with Jason off on parental leave

To Donate: Go to <u>p2c.sh/jasonbrink</u>, or call 1.855.P2C.GIVE (1.855.722.4483)







Family Missions Journey

In our Christmas newsletter, we talked about 15 changes of 2015. One that you may have noticed near the bottom of the page was the note that we have been accepted as long-term missionaries with MB Mission. We mentioned that more details would be coming in the new year. So, here they are!

As you might know, we have been thinking about doing cross-cultural missions work for many years. We love what God is doing through Power to Change in Canada, and see a huge need for the work being done. At the same time, God has been growing our heart over the years to serve people groups that have much less access to the gospel than we are blessed to have here in Canada. Did you know that over 40% of the world's population live in ethnic or cultural groups that are considered "unreached" by missions organizations (where less than 2% of people in the group are Christfollowers)? And, for every dollar of Christian resources, less than one penny is directed at reaching unreached

peoples? (source: https://joshuaproject.net/
resources/articles/has everyone heard)

There are many ways to be involved in helping reach the less reached, from creating resources, to giving money, to mobilizing labourers. But, we've been considering whether God is calling us to be one of the families that go. That actually move across the world to live with these people. That is a huge step, and we are the first to admit that simply looking at our human abilities, we are woefully inadequate to such a task. And yet, we feel that God is compelling us to look in that direction!

After talking to several missions organizations in January 2015, we decided to step forward in this journey with MB Mission. MB Mission is the global mission agency of the Mennonite Brethren denomination that our home church belongs to, and their vision is

"Holistic church planting that transforms communities among the least reached." Although we didn't have any experience with church planting, we wanted to work with an organization that was planting churches, as we believe it is critical for reaching the least reached. We spent 3 days at a retreat with the leaders of MB Mission in Spring 2015, and were thoroughly impressed with their heart and values. After going through the application process in the summer, we were accepted to move on to doing 3 months of intensive training with them, which happens every August. August 2015 was too soon for us, training this coming up August.

However, we've been asked to wait another year, based on 2 other changes that we highlighted in our Christmas newsletter: our new baby, and the church plant our home church is doing that we've gotten in-

volved with. So, I'll be sticking around with Power to Change for a while longer, likely till Summer 2017. And, we will be continuing to talk with MB Mission along the way, as we discern together when the right timing is for us to jump into training.

The idea of moving our family overseas, far from everything that is familiar, to help people encounter Jesus is both exciting and very scary. We are also in an uncomfortable time, where there are lots of unanswered questions about when and where we might move. However, we do sense that God is working in this time, and has especially brought along this church plant as a way to grow, develop, and challenge us in ways that are very necessary. Please pray for us as we go through this process!

Global Technology Leaders'

Conference

In April, Jason and his boss Nick had the opportunity to attend a conference in Bangkok, Thailand. The event is for technology leaders working with Power to Change and it's associated organizations in countries around the world, all part of the global organization of Cru (formerly Campus Crusade for Christ). It was encouraging to connect with others who are passionate about using their technology skills to serve our missionaries and help them be as effective as possible! We learned lots, and we hope the relationships that were developed will lead to opportunities for collaboration in the future.



Attendees at the GTL conference in Thailand



August 2015 was too soon for us, so our plan had been to do that get a bit of time to see Bangkok. It's an interesting mix of modern and under-developed!

Jason, Shannon, Silas, Toby, Fiona, and Naomi

