

THE NATE SHAVER FAMILY to the people of Iceland

“Our Three Months in Iceland”

We landed safely in the United States on March 13th. The Lord gave us a wonderful time in Iceland, and we are grateful for the lessons we learned during our first winter there.

When we realized we were unable to get into Iceland in the summer of 2024 and would have to wait for this year’s application window, we had a few men counsel us to take advantage of the time and plan a trip to Iceland. Once we settled on the idea, we knew that we wanted it to be a longer trip, rather than shorter one, and we wanted the whole family to go. We were able to spend 87 days in-country, with the whole family getting some great experience. The two main hurdles we faced, were the cost, which was sizable, and the logistics. Between just transportation and lodging, the costs ran us about \$35,000, while we paid right at \$7,000 on groceries during the three months there. We got a great sense of what a monthly food budget will look like, along with travel-related expenses.

Our goal in Iceland was twofold. **First**, we wanted to get a sense of what life would be like there. How would we live, interact, get around, meet people, etc. **Second**, we wanted to get a sense of the language. What does it sound like, what is the rhythm and pace, along with learning basic vocabulary and grammar structure.

I was so encouraged to see Rachel jump in with both feet. She conquered the tremendous task of running the household, meal-planning, and working on communication during her excursions out. She had no qualms, and no reservations about getting out and figuring things out. She managed holidays, birthdays, and dozens of other things. To be honest, the brunt of cultural adaptation is carried by my wife, and I am grateful for her and the effort she invested in it.

I was able to spend the majority of my time out, working on the language. Although I wasn’t able to focus on it like I would when we move there, the Lord brought people across my path who I was able to utilize in my language work. Our family had the goal of not speaking English while we were out and about, and although we weren’t 100% successful at this, it was something to work towards. We look forward to continuing this challenge when we get back to Iceland.

“Where we are”

I’m typing out this letter while sitting in a missions house in Wenatchee, WA. Within a week of landing back in the U.S, we were on the road headed out west for some meetings. We have travelled over 3500 miles in the past 3 weeks and have been in three different churches. We are planning on being busy with meetings up through June at which point we will Lord willing begin preparing for our move. We have a lot of miles to cover, and we ask for the Lord’s continued safety during our travels.

“Prayer...”

- University acceptance (Our applications are completed and submitted)
- Our travels here in the States
- The financial and logistical needs for the upcoming (God-willing) move to Iceland
-

“...and Praise”

- Our time in Iceland was immensely profitable
- We had safety in our navigation of winter in Iceland
- The opportunities for language learning we had while in Iceland
- Safety travelling back to the states

“Conclusion”

Thank you all for the continued prayer regarding our university application. It is such an encouragement to hear how you are praying for us, and I know many more are praying. Please pray for the many things that need to happen between now and a move overseas. Lodging, vehicles, plane tickets, shipping container, and many other boxes that need checked. Although we can’t move forward on these things until we get the “yes”, we want to be as prepared as we possibly can. We trust that the Lord will meet every need we have.

To Iceland for Christ,

Nate and Rachel Shaver

Sephora, Myles, Delbert, Cornelius, Theodore, Cecelia, and Jack

February-March 2025 Newsletter



Jack enjoyed turning one in Iceland



Visiting a church in Iceland



Teddy helping with a song during a meeting in South Dakota

nate.icelandicmissions.com

270.484.4624

nicelandshavers@outlook.com

Sending Church: Greater Cumberland Baptist Church
3822 Lafayette Rd. | Hopkinsville, KY 42240
www.visitgcbc.com | 270.890.6040

Support Sent to: All Points Baptist Mission
P.O. Box 977 | New Philadelphia, OH 44663
Memo: Nate Shaver