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Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2026 2:36 PM
To: Alaina Hepworth
Subject: The latest news for you



MASH Ministries Update / Phelps Family Update May 2026

Dear Churches and Supporters of MASH Ministries and the Phelps Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers and financial support throughout the years. It's hard to believe that this ministry started over 11 years ago. When we started this ministry, we didn't dream of where we would be today. What started as a project for a master's class has turned into so much more. We could not be where we are today without the prayers, messages, support, encouragement, and financial blessings MASH Ministries has received.

2026 seems to be flying by. The kids are thrilled to begin their summer break. This year has been a challenging year for the girls, and they are ready to regroup, rest up, and grow this summer.

Alyssa is finishing up her sophomore year, Anna is finishing her first year in junior high, and Alex and Ava are finishing the fourth grade. Alyssa and Anna missed their clarinet recital due to a trip to Virginia. They will play their recital piece one Wednesday night this summer. Alyssa's ensemble placed 2nd at Nationals in April. Alyssa was part of a group videography project that placed 1st at state but did not place at Nationals. Anna won 1st place for Digital Media on the state level for middle school. Alex and Ava are really taking a liking to photography along with their older sisters. We can't wait to see what they do with the talents that they have been blessed with. This past Thursday night at the awards night, Alyssa was awarded the Tabitha award for kindness, and we couldn't be prouder of this recognition.

Earlier this spring, MASH Ministries partnered with a corporate business to put together a snack drive that benefits the first responders. The baskets were delivered all over the state of Indiana

to police and fire departments. We are thankful for this continued partnership over the last few years. There is potential that we may be able to take this snack drive to Illinois and Wisconsin.

Anna is still recovering from her bone bruise. She has further testing at the end of June, which we hope will give us more answers. Paul is now almost 1 year post-op with one of his knees and 5 months for the other. Recovery is continuing to progress. He still has challenges from time to time, especially when a weather front rolls in or when he does too much in one day. He will have a follow-up from his surgeries later this fall.

We are considering different opportunities that would allow us to further grow our ministry with veterans and first responders. We have been approached by our local community to help them construct classes on how to apply the roles of a chaplain to their field. We continue to work with those who attend support groups once a week and work through the challenges they are facing and point them to Christ. We are looking to rebuild our speaking engagement calendar this summer and fall. We look to revisit our supporting churches and add new churches to present our ministry.

On May 14th, Paul graduated from Liberty University with a Doctor of Ministry in Chaplaincy. We couldn't be prouder to wrap up this chapter of schooling. We were able to enjoy a few days away in Virginia to take in this moment and watch Paul walk across that stage and receive his doctorate. During his doctorate, Paul chose to work on a portfolio project versus a thesis statement. Paul had to come up with a problem statement and defend it in the end before graduation. The problem statement that Paul came up with is "that MASH Ministries in Westfield, Indiana, needs a strategy to increase the awareness of the roles of a chaplain." While the portfolio problem statement states that it is for Westfield, Indiana, we have found that this problem goes beyond this area. For class purposes, Paul had to work only in the area where we live. At the end of these four projects that he created for his portfolio, Paul sat down with one of his professors to defend this project and was successful. We are proud of the perseverance that Paul showed in finishing his schooling in less than two years while recovering from two surgeries.

