

Laura Allen • TCK Care

The Seasons of 2025 - A Year of God's Faithfulness

Dear Friends,

As I look back on 2025, I'm struck by how each season carried its own gifts, challenges, and reminders of God's steady presence. From ministry milestones to family moments—both joyful and difficult—this year has woven together a story of God's faithfulness. I'd love to share with you the seasons that shaped my heart and my work.

Winter

The year began with CI's two-week CrossTraining program in icy Kentucky. Despite snow closures, flu bugs, and travel delays, God met us in such sweet ways. I loved leading the children's program and getting to know our TCKs and their families. By the end, I felt real connection and trust—such a gift for the long-term care I provide.



CrossTraining TCKs

In February, I spent four rich days with fellow TCK caregivers. We learned from incredible speakers about multilingual development, generational understanding, and how to better support our kids across cultures. I left encouraged and equipped.

After nine years at Belmont Church in Nashville, I was deeply honored when our mission pastors, Steve and Judi Cochran, invited me to become a monthly Faith Promise Partner. With a few supporters needing to step back, this came at the perfect time. I felt God's kindness and the church's belief in caring well for TCKs.

Spring

Spring was all about Summit '25. I created the children's program—from selecting and revising the curriculum to hiring teachers and volunteers. God brought together the perfect "Dream Team" of 13 passionate, gifted people who loved our kids so well.

Right after celebrating her 83rd birthday, Mom fell and fractured her ankle in three places. The months that followed were full of surgery, wheelchairs, and therapy. It was overwhelming at times, juggling ministry and caregiving, but God carried us through with grace and the support of family and friends.



Steve and Judi Cochran



With sister-in-law Samantha



With Abby Geleta

Summer

Summit was a joy. After years of planning, seeing all our missionaries together again was worth every ounce of effort. Friendships were rekindled, teaching was powerful, and the children's program helped our TCKs feel known and loved. Many said they wished Summit happened more often—such an encouragement.

To God be the glory!



Fall

With no international travel this year, I spent more time nurturing connections made at Summit. Regular emails, texts, Zoom calls, and even story-times with younger TCKs helped build trust with each family. These steady rhythms have been meaningful and fruitful.

Living in Tennessee makes it easy to drive to Wilmore when needed. I made two trips in the fall—one to meet with our board and join a CI fundraising dinner, and another to attend a fundraising event for Abby and Bek Geleta's growing church plant in Nairobi. Each visit reminded me how blessed I am to be part of the CI family and God's global work.

Winter Again

My brother Steve, living with ALS for ten years, crossed the finish line on November 26 with incredible courage after a bout of pneumonia. His wife, Samantha, and their five children championed him through the difficult years helping him to bravely live out God's calling on his life even as his physical abilities slowly diminished. We hold both grief and hope in these moments as we wrestle with the void he has left and the joy of knowing he is receiving his reward for a life well lived.



There's a Nicole Nordeman song I love, "Every Season," which says: "With every season's change, you are re-creating me."

I've felt that truth deeply this year. Through the highs and the hard lows, God has met me again and again with a steady faithfulness I can't deny. Even when I fall short, He keeps shaping me, working out His purposes in me with patience and grace.

I'm being refined by the One who loves me best. And honestly? There is no better or safer place to be.

My Prayer For You

To my dear friends and ministry partners—thank you. I pray that in the coming year you experience God's tender love, His renewing work, and His faithful presence in every season.

Many of you have walked through your own hardships this year. As we celebrate Christmas, may we rest in the eternal hope we have in Jesus and the daily nearness of His Spirit.

Support

Gratefully Yours, *Laura*



To stand with Laura Allen financially, you can give online at cornerstoneinternational.org/allen or make your check out to Cornerstone Int'l, memo **Allen • TCK Care**, & mail to PO Box 192 Wilmore, KY 40390

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