

From the August 4, 2008 Issue

Our First Year

This issue marks the first anniversary of the publication of *The Adopted Life*. One year ago this month we launched our e-newsletter without knowing for sure if anyone was as interested as we were in reading about the good news of humanity's adoption into the Triune Life of God. We only knew that our excitement from seeing humanity's inclusion in God was literally driving us to write and speak what we know.

Not only did we find that hundreds were interesting in reading about it, we found that hundreds were actually thirsting for just such a publication. The response we have received in the past year has been more than encouraging and has made all our effort worthwhile.

This issue is our 14th. We published two in August of 2007 and one each month since then. Our website, which has been up since November of 2007, has registered over 16,000 page views since it went online. In the larger world of the internet this is a miniscule number but, for a publication that we write in our spare time and don't advertise, we think it is a pretty good track record so far. Those 16,000 page views don't represent that many visitors (since any one visitor may view several pages on the site each time he or she visits) but they do represent a constant stream of hundreds of people reading thousands of pages about the gospel - and that is something to celebrate!

We are also greatly encouraged by the worldwide nature of our readership. If you click on the box labeled "Visitor locations" on the main page of the website (www.theadoptedlife.org) you will see that we have readers all over the world, especially in Great Britain, South Africa, Australia, and the Philippines. This is no doubt connected to the global presence of the Worldwide Church of God, whose pastors and members constitute the majority of our readership.

Thank you for reading *The Adopted Life* during this past year. We trust—based on the emails, calls, and encouragement we have received—that it has been a blessing to you and a help in your understanding of the gospel. We look forward to many more years of celebrating with you the good news of our adoption in Jesus Christ.

~ *Tim Brassell and Jonathan Stepp*