

Jeremy · Sandra · Carina · Barrett · Henry · Alex · Joanna · Ethan

THE BARKER FAMILY

May 2026

3 Birthdays, 1 Faithful God



Ethan Eugene Barker was born on April 10.

April 2 marked my 44th birthday. God was good and worked it out for Sandra and me to be together for the first time outside of a hospital in two months. After some much-needed time together, we swapped places, and I spent the remainder of the day in the hospital with Henry, which reminded me of my birthday last year, spending the majority of my birthday in the hospital with Barrett (I hope this doesn't become a tradition).



With Pastor Jenkins in Clayton, North Carolina

April 8 was Henry's 4th birthday, and we were grateful that his four siblings were able to come by and see him for the second time in over two months. With hospital restrictions in place, we had to take turns, so I had two with me, and after a few minutes, Sandra took the two others in to see him.



With Pastor Williams of Hillsborough, North Carolina

April 10 ended up being Ethan's birthday. In answer to prayer, the pregnancy with the most complications resulted in the least complicated delivery. He was born at 3:05 p.m. at 8 pounds 6 ounces and 21 inches long. God allowed him to be born at the same facility where Henry is receiving treatment, and when we were discharged, we simply went from one end of the hospital to the other so we could continue to reside in Henry's room.



With Pastor Owens of Stoneville, North Carolina

We were also grateful that April 20 marked Henry's last planned radiation treatment. At this point, the medical staff want him to take a break and resume his chemotherapy on June 1. During this pause in treatment, we are hoping he can be discharged from Duke Hospital in Durham and transferred to Atrium Levine in Charlotte for two to three weeks to go through a Disorders of Consciousness Rehab Program. It's the only one in the state of North Carolina and could potentially help him become more alert and mobile. It thrilled us to no end to see him open his eyes for the first time in over two months on April 25. His responses have been limited, but we praise the Lord he is improving. Henry will continue with the standard six-month chemotherapy plan that follows radiation. This is the normal next step in his recovery, and the doctors are very encouraged. We are grateful that when this phase starts, it will only require four days a month of inpatient care, which would allow us to continue preparing for our return to Nigeria.



With Pastor Hicks of Ridgeway, Virginia

Near the end of the month, at Port Harcourt Independent Baptist Church, we had another Bible Quiz for the teenagers. We had 38 young men and women from 6 different churches participate. The Lord blessed, and lives were changed through Scripture memorization. I missed not being able to participate this time but rejoiced to hear of the turnout and see the pictures.

We continue to spread the Gospel around Duke Hospital and as I travel with the children, taking advantage of the opportunities the Lord provides. I was blessed to be in 10 different churches across North Carolina and Virginia in the month of April with 4 of our children.

Please continue to pray for Henry's healing, God's grace for our family, the work in Nigeria, and for the Lord to open more doors for us to witness for Christ here in the United States.

Working hard to bring fruit to your account,

Jeremy, Sandra, Carina, Barrett, Henry, Alex, Joanna, & Ethan Barker



Henry meeting Ethan for the first time



The kids taking turns seeing Henry



With Pastor Law of Eden, North Carolina



With Pastor Robertson of Harrisonburg, Virginia



Bible Quiz at IBC in Port Harcourt, Nigeria

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