



Dear Praying Friends,

Life has been running along at its normal, hectic pace this summer, except with temperatures a few degrees higher than we would choose to work in at times. However, we have just experienced a cooler week, which gives tremendous relief. In spite of the vehicle being unbearably hot since the a/c is not working, traveling has been very blessed and encouraging, while work on the house keeps progressing, and we are privileged to have some amazing openings for witnessing.

### **Bridging the Gap**

We hope you enjoyed our Celebratory Issue of the Prayer Letter, as we looked back on God's faithfulness over so many years. Unfortunately, due to an oversight, you did not receive it all! Our boys had an insert page giving you an opportunity to meet the **extended family** and have their up to date news. As it comes with this letter, we ask that you note the girls are a little older and if you want to follow the timeline along the side you should fit it into the centre of the celebratory edition for the dates to be in order. To those who were disappointed – we apologize, to those who did not notice – enjoy!

### **Building Bridges**

As we sent out our last letter, **Hammy Agnew** was coming from Northern Ireland. In spite of very warm weather and severe migraine headaches, Hammy completed three quarters of the plastering on the outside of the house, as well as doing a large inside wall. Not only do we thank him for his hard work but also Mr & Mrs Kenneth Hughes who made his trip possible.

Hammy came with us on a trip to F.Y.R.O.Macedonia, and gave his testimony in one of the meetings where David was preaching, during which he had the added experience of his first **earthquake**. The building was rocked by the quake, which with its epicenter in the nearby mountains, measured 5.7 on the Richter scale and was felt from Thessalonica in Greece to Sofia in Bulgaria. David says, it is not often people have such an earth shaking experience while he is preaching as he reminded them of Acts 16 at Philippi! God is still in control!

### **Strengthening Old Bridges**

A few weeks later David and our next door neighbour, in even hotter temperatures, finished off the final outside wall of the house. **Kostas**, who was glad of the paid work, can only speak Greek, so it proved good for David's language skills. Several **neighbours dropped by** for coffee and a chat, which although not conducive to fast progress, gave good openings for sharing and giving out literature.

**Two ladies, both Mary**, from N. Ireland passed through Greece to help Jimmy in his work in Stip. They had been in F.Y.R.O.Macedonia with Ministry for Europe Trust last year, and returned on their own steam, wanting especially to help poor children. We were able to assist, by taking them from the airport to the Macedonian border, where Jimmy met them, and we repeated the journey in reverse two weeks later.

### **Developing New Bridges**

This summer we made many more trips than originally planned, but through these have gotten to know new fellowships, new friends and new locations. Olive Wilson took us to a recently started and growing **Romany Fellowship**, where David had a chance to share with Olive translating and we have been invited back. We came into contact with a group of believers in Prilep and were able to encourage them in their work.

Our visits to **Bitola** have been bitter-sweet as some personality friction is causing severe hurt and straining friendships past breaking point. The evil one is always on the lookout to cause division and sometimes God's people are extremely gullible, falling repeatedly into his traps. **An absence of leadership** encouraged this situation to escalate. Please pray for



Hammy Agnew



Kostas Plastering



Romany Fellowship

wisdom as these situations are being dealt with.

However, there is growth in the fellowship and souls continue to come in with questions, not only to the meetings but also to the English classes and the Café run on the premises. We renewed fellowship with **Marin and his family** who were visiting from Bulgaria and are also keen for us to come and help them in Sofia.

### Water under the Bridge

We will return to Bitola for the Baptism of **Zhaklina and possibly others** on September 6th. Pray for her as she invites some of her wider family circle to witness the event.

We had mentioned in PL 100 that **Ethan and Jan** were expecting their first child, which sadly due to a miscarriage, is no longer the case. However, they are both doing well and in a very positive way have left the future with the Lord. Due to a change in Macedonian visa rules, they are being forced to return to the USA until it becomes possible for them to get more permanent entrance into the country.

One exciting opportunity developed when several different missionary groups joined together for a huge open air meeting on the beach at Leptokarya.. Hundreds listened to the singing, testimonies and preaching from God's Word. One **young muslim convert** showed where he had been stabbed in the heart by his fanatical best friend in Iran, following his conversion. This led to many questions and much literature being taken.

Recently, we were invited by the local village president, to the **annual festival** remembering their escape from Turkey into Greece in the 1820's when thousands were slaughtered mercilessly by their tyrannical overlords. It was nice to chat with many of the locals and experience the continued friendliness of the local orthodox priest.

We have enjoyed working with the Revival movement, from Belfast (formerly Every Home Crusade) and have prayed for their ministry for decades as through their work untold thousands have learned God's wonderful plan of Salvation. Our combined work has led to personal discussions with all of the delivery people and several office personnel. Recently, **Eugenia and Barbara** requested further meetings to discuss the literature they received.

### Bridges in need of Repair

Last month, we cut short a trip to attend the wedding of an evangelical friend, who was marrying an orthodox 'good boy' as her mother describes him. Please pray that this trend will slow down, as the desire to marry takes pre-eminence over God's call for separation. Not only the youth are at fault, as many parents believe that an unequal **marriage is better than no marriage** and no grandchildren. There needs to be a complete change in their attitude towards those still single and waiting for the 'right' partner. We received a letter from a friend, burdened for Greece who lists Greece as being the neediest missionfield in Europe. Even if it is not exactly top of the list, we need wisdom to use the best approach in helping the believers grow in their faith, and your prayers to reach the lost.

There are occasions when we tangibly feel God is in control concerning timing and conversation. A chance phone call – **15 minutes later 3 strangers at our door** – during conversation, two of the strangers hint that we can't expect much of another contact, who is 'not involved in church like us'. Following David's question regarding when their own personal destiny was secured, it was discovered that we were dealing with a deeply troubled man who spent decades running from God and a wife carrying burdens and pressures God never intended. Tears were shed and over the next two hours they admitted the need to allow God into their lives.

Hours later, another friend **Chris**, with whom David has also spent many hours in discussion, called, stating that his brother-in-law told him about a discussion they had, and Chris knew immediately who had spoken with them. We had no idea they were related and the family were in total amazement at how small the world is. Why are we so surprised when the God of miracles does something? Please pray – God is at work in this family.

Pray also, please, for **Wilma's sister Catherine**, who is being treated for epileptic fits of an unknown origin, and for her family as they adjust to this diagnosis. **David's brother Ian, Jacqueline and son Harry** spent two weeks here in August, mixing holiday with work. Ian did a great job painting the large room, hallways, and the outside preparation coat, which was done in a couple of days of extreme heat here. Jackie and Harry, not only



Muslim convert testifying



Ian, Jacqueline, and Harry

assisted Ian, but also undertook many tasks from scraping plaster off gates and railings to painting radiators and interior doors. During one of their short trips to the beach, Ian heard a lady calling desperately for help. Without a pause for thought, he quickly swam over, assessed the situation and carried her disabled adult daughter into the shore. The mother was very grateful to Ian for his quick reaction. It was nice for us to spend time with them and we were able to go to Gevgelija, giving them opportunity to meet some of the believers there.

**Ali & Vicki**, from England, also want to mix holiday with work and we look forward to their visit in early Sept. There have been many guests and callers this summer and also good contact with neighbours who only come to the village for the summer. Pray for these **continued friendships** to develop into more.

### Across the Bridge

After a successful career as a midwife, **Helen Sunter** became mission secretary for the UF in Scotland, and so began our friendship. Among other missionary trips, Helen visited Macedonia, helping the clinic in Skopje and also visited Leptokarya camp, where she reported on the church in Scotland. Helen had a real interest in each one of our lives and kept that interest active in various churches. After a battle with cancer, which she bore with her own typical dignity, Helen **went to be with the Lord**, we already miss her and these shoes will be hard to fill, yet we are glad she is now pain free and with the Lord, whom she loved and served. We are thrilled to have known her and 'thank the Lord for every remembrance of her.'

While we lived in Austria, in the absence of immediate family, we had '**grandparents**' for our children and were saddened to hear of both their deaths within weeks of each other. **Herr and Frau Pfann** will be greatly missed.

It is time to think about **2010 home meetings** and please contact Charles McCluskey for bookings:

**January** – Northern Ireland, (*English meetings can begin earlier if necessary*)

**February/March** – England and Scotland (*20th-23rd February in Fort William, Scotland*),

Late March: Ireland for vehicle testing & packing.

Easter week after the CCCF with Sue & Ray Avery in Salisbury area

Therafter, we travel to Greece.

Serving Him, who bridged the gap  
between Earth and Heaven,  
*David & Wilma Lyttle*



Helen Sunter

## Contact & Support

### David & Wilma Lyttle,

T0 (Box) 21, GR-60100, Katerini, Pieria, Greece

E-mail: mizpahmail@aol.com, lyttle@otenet.gr

Tel: ++ 30 23510-71124

This prayer letter is sent out by :

Mr & Mrs Charles McCluskey,

7 Parklands, Magheralin,

Co. Armagh, BT67 0SP

Tel: 028 92611796

Gifts for support should be sent to:

Mizpah Outreach

c/o Mrs. Ella Coffey

2 Tullynacree Rd, Annacloy,

Downpatrick, BT30 9AH

Tel: 028 44831165

This Prayer Letter is sent out by:

Iain & Tanja Lyttle

206 Twin Oak Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24502

Tel: (434) 832-2008

Gifts may be sent to:

Stephen Hudson

Thomas Road Baptist Church

1 Mountainview Road, Lynchburg, VA 24502

*All checks should be written out to TRBC, but place*

**'For Mizpah Outreach'** on the memo line.

*All gifts are tax-deductible.*

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