



Dear Praying People,

We are writing this letter from a rather warm [but not excessively hot] Greece! Compared to last year when we had weeks in the high 40's, we have had a mild summer so far, with only a handful of days in the 40's. Some days have even been overcast, with occasional showers to cool off the day, which does not please the tourists or those hoping to make a lot of money from tourism, but we have been extremely thankful for this blessing. August is the warmest, most humid month, so it won't be long till cooler days again! Physically, we have also kept well and are truly grateful for your prayers on our behalf.

Most weekends find us either **on the road** in F.Y.R.O. Macedonia to preach or help out in different fellowships and assemblies, or teaching in one of the fellowships **here in** northern Greece. We continue to find heart-breaking needs wherever we go and try to help where possible. Thanks you for praying through the last prayer letter! We have seen many answers to prayer and do appreciate you asking after those we mentioned for prayer.

PRACTICAL PRAYERPOINTS

1. **Wilma's grandmother**, Munny passed away at the end of May and she had a God-glorifying funeral in the largest church in Fort William. Knowing the end was near, Wilma had tried to book flights out of Greece, but being a particularly cheap time for tourists everything out of Greece was a return for those already in, except for a ridiculously expensive ticket, meaning we would also have to cancel services. Eventually, we found an amazing deal from Skopje, which coincided perfectly with our last booked service, so we travelled home and spent time with family and friends. We had a lovely time sharing memories, blessings and the Gospel with many we met during the visit!
2. David made a brief visit to N.I. to sort out a container and was happy to see most of his family who came to meet him on the one free evening available. On the flight across he met a **Sikh lady called Kam**, originally from Kenya. He has seldom met anyone so hungry for, and yet knowing so little about, the Gospel truth! She lives now in the Leeds area, so please pray for her that she will have contact with others who will continue to be links in the chain leading her to Jesus.
3. **Bore, our paralysed friend** from Pirava, also passed away recently. We knew things were bad for him, when we mentioned him in the last prayer letter, but his last week was especially difficult, with bouts of intense pain and delirium. Now, thankfully, his long and arduous journey is over and Caroline his wife and Traje his son are in need of your definite prayers. Since Bore's passing, a second of Bore's sisters now attends the service every week.
4. **Yannis**, who fell 20' landing on his head, has made a remarkable recovery according to the 19 specialists who were dealing with him over this period. He has been back in hospital recently with some epileptic problems as a result of his injury, but he is back doing some of his work, mostly using the Internet. Alongside his convalescence, was the heartbreak of having a very ill grandchild. The first time Yannis actually saw and held little **Markos Yannis** was at his funeral when he was 5 mths and 5 days old, having spent all these months in a special unit at the hospital. The parents bore a very good testimony throughout, in the manner they accepted what was happening as part of the Lord's Will for their child.
5. **George**, from the Free Evangelical church in Larissa has been finally and judicially cleared of the murder charge. We spoke with a lovely girl Stavroula from his fellowship just after the hearing, who told us he has been totally exonerated of all charges and his suffering over the past years has been a total travesty of justice. Thanks you for your prayers and as the Lord's Name has been vindicated, please pray for fruit from the much witnessing that has been done in the Larissa area over these years, now that this shadow has been lifted.
6. **1 of the 2 young ladies**, mentioned in the last prayer letter has broken off her relationship with her unsaved boyfriend. She is finding it tough going as she still loves him very much, but knows God could not bless this friendship. We have not had contact with the other young lady so please pray on!

7. Earlier in the 'Roll call of the Faithful' we should have mentioned **Olga**, a dear old soul from the Elderly Residential Home. Previously, opposed to the Gospel message, shortly after finding the Saviour, she welcomed David with upraised hands shouting, 'S'agapo', 'I love you.' Such was the change in Olga's life! She had not been too well recently, so when David was preaching last week, he asked one of the helpers to bring him to her room to visit, and was told she had died a few days before. Some of these old ones are treasures, deserving more of our appreciation. Everyone misses Olga!

INTERESTING INCIDENTS:

- Delivering **1 ton of literature** for distribution in a country several hours away
- Attending the High School graduation of **Mile**, [pastor Zoran's son] in Gevgelija (*pictured*)
- Having **Aleksandra** stay with us, allowing her to have fellowship with young Greek Christians. There is so much antagonism between these two nations over the name Macedonia which often spills over into the church, causing the believers from both countries to avoid contact.
- Visiting with **Stanko and Vera** in Bitola. Recently, due to carelessness from another work colleague, Stanko ended up with large slabs of marble falling across his two legs. Although his colleagues assumed he would be seriously injured, amazingly, only the top of one foot was broken and the other one ankle was dislocated and fractured. They had just begun to attend services regularly again when this happened, but the folks have been visiting and encouraging them during this time. We were able to help them with financial needs and also a walking aid to help his mobility.
- **Pavlos**, an elder from the church here in Sevasti has had throat cancer and now lives with a permanent tracheostomy. We have been able to help him and another elderly man in the village with a walking aid, meaning they can retain their independence for a while longer.
- This Sunday is the official opening of the new **Roma Fellowship building in Bitola** and they hope to see many believers from all over MK coming to that service. Tefik, the Roma Pastor and his family will live in an apartment over the church when it is finished.
- Between weekend services, preparing messages, preaching for the elderly, visitation, entertaining guests, literature distribution, etc., in his spare time David has been building a house in the garden to **shelter the generator** from our weather extremes. This area has many power cuts due to low voltage, and now recently power outages through strikes, necessitating the use of a diesel generator esp., when we have so many people to cater for.

LIVING LOGISTICS

The increased rain has helped the growth of fruit and veg here in Greece and our figs and pomegranates are doing well. We are very glad of fresh eggs and all the other produce various neighbours give us from time to time as they are in season. Three nights ago, some folks cut through our neighbour's fence stealing a lot of garden produce, destroying many plants and leaving a lot of debris in their wake. Everybody involved in this crisis understands those who are hungry, stealing; but the unnecessary damage and destruction, leaves them very upset and ruins their possibilities of bottling, freezing, canning, etc. for the winter. **Please continue to pray for Greece!** The people depending on tourism have been disappointed at the diminishing numbers coming. As summer draws to an end, so do the possibilities of making money to keep them through the winter. Many people, on both sides of the border, are contemplating, have already decided, or have been forced to leave and find work abroad. Some go and relocation makes it hard to settle; others go looking, but lack of success forces them to return; while still others are sent back by the country they hoped would take them. This uncertainty combined with those coming and going, has an adverse effect on the people left behind, especially in the smaller fellowships who sometimes lose their most key people.



Mile



Generator Shelter



Shayna & Catalina

Our **Family in the US** are doing well. We have been delighted that **Shayna and Catalina**, the eldest two of our granddaughters, are now able to write and send us emails. We are so thankful for this possibility of personal communication and wonder how folks managed before the internet? Allyn will be travelling to some needy areas this year, reporting and raising awareness, especially where sex trafficking is a huge problem. They do appreciate those of you who continue to remember them in prayer!

ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

We have had some response to the leaflet we sent out about the **camp proposal**. Although we still have a long way to go, we hope to have a **team come in Sept/Oct** to begin putting in utilities and laying foundations. Please keep this project in your prayers!

This is a very **early warning** that we will be doing our bi-annual **GB deputation in 2014** DV, and look forward to meeting up with many of you. Tentatively, from early January we will be available in N.I. and be around for Jan/Feb depending on the meetings we get. Around mid-March for as long as needed, we plan to be in Scotland and then in early April take meetings through England, as we travel back out of the country again. If any of these dates suit your fellowship, or you would like a home visit, please contact **Charles, or ourselves** as soon as possible and we will slot you in. By the next letter, we may have a more concrete program, as people begin to be set in according to areas. Usually when we come home, we hire a **small car for using in N.I.**, as it saves not only fuel, but wear and tear on the van and also allows it to undergo whatever is necessary to pass the annual MOT. However, some folks have said, had they known they could have helped with a car; so, if that is you, then please let one of the committee members or ourselves know about it.

Thank you for the easy transition you made from **Ella to Sharon** and we deeply appreciate your continued interest in prayer and support. Also, please continue to contact **Martin Bell** if you have any further questions about work teams or the camp project. **Ella & Bertie** have had very blessed times on Beach missions this summer and have seen much fruit for their work with the teams.

Your simple servants,

David & Wilma

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