



Dear Praying friends,

As we look at autumn turning to wintry weather over the whole of Europe, we are so thankful, that we still have 22-26 degrees, even in the last days of October, allowing us to get a lot more outside work done. Thinking back over the past few months, which have been very full, we have a lot to praise God for, and much to ask you to pray about.

Our Van had to have a bit of work done recently and due to a great working relationship and a desire to help us, the firm Zampetas here in Thessaloniki, did the work for free! Hallelujah!

This week, our 17 year old Skoda passed its MOT test, although it did need quite a lot of work to make it passable. God is good all the time, He never disappoints and is always there!

In PL 136 we informed all of you, our prayer partners, that because of data protection laws we needed your permission to keep sending this letter. Now months later, after sending out a slip which just needed returned, sending PL 137 to give others a last chance and despite verbal encouragements when we were home, only some 30% have responded. We are feeling a bit like Gideon, after his army was decimated to 300 fighters! But Gideon's God is our God and He hasn't changed. We would rather have 30% who will really pray than 100% who either don't even read the letter, or read for entertainment. He has protected and provided for over 42 years and has no intention of quitting now, and neither do we! We continue, not somehow, but triumphantly and thank you sincerely for your continued prayers and support!!

Most of the container of supplies we brought from UK for refugees, has been distributed to various camps on mainland Greece and also to the Island of Lesbos which has developed into a monumental disaster. Some folks from Jon Marc's church went to help for a couple of weeks and were noted as saying after the first day, 'That was the worst day of my life!' They saw the heartbreaking needs, the appalling hardships, insufficient supplies, inadequate toilets and showers, and it was simply too much!

On the islands, they are experiencing a living, ongoing nightmare of horrendous proportions, which is only worsening as the winter months approach. Lining up for food can take around 4 hours per meal and often by the time people get to the front, there is no food left, and those less able are in danger of starving to death. Some of these camps have 10 X the populations they were built for and sometime this month, 3,000 of them are finally being transferred to Thessaloniki. And people are still arriving. Not in the numbers we had in 2015-17, but in big enough numbers to make a huge difference, and not many people are getting to go further or finding any solution to their situation! Nothing is now on the news about the situation, unless someone gets killed or serious damage is done by the migrants. The UNHCR had planned to remove personnel and funding at the end of this year, but have concluded, that considering the seriousness of the situation, the 'hotspots' should continue to receive funding for another year. At the moment, Greece is under investigation, as to its handling of those funds! We know world-wide, there are a constant stream of dire emergencies and natural disasters crying out for attention, but if your heart is not moved at least to pray for what is happening in Greece, something radical needs to happen!

As well as providing super quality clothing, new and used, blankets, sleeping bags, pushchairs, baby cots, medicines and toiletries, we have delivered boxes of New Testaments and of 4 different Christian books like More than a Carpenter by Josh McDowell. Please pray for lives to be impacted as refugees receive these.

Some lovely Egyptian Christians helped with refugees around Thessaloniki for a few months. They were a blessing to us, and shared how those feelings were reciprocated, as we ministered to them. Please pray for them as they returned to a land, where they are often targeted and killed for their faith.

As a team, with our folks from Berea, under the auspices of World Help we are now getting into the Alexandria Camp. This is an additional responsibility, as recently people have been transferred from the islands, meaning we already have 800-1,000 refugees in Alexandria. The needs are great, but it also has the advantage of building good relationships with the people. 15 refugees attended the services in Berea the last time David was preaching, and some of them indicated they wanted to know Jesus personally. After the service we had lunch together and it came to our attention that the new baby in his mother's arms, had only the clothes he was in and these had been provided by our team. So we came home here, loaded up our car with all essentials they would need and returned. At this church service and during our lunch together, three or four groups of Jewish visitors came to visit the synagogue, giving Pastor Nikos and David good opportunities to speak to them also about Jesus.

The meetings recently have been greatly blessed, as God has moved in hearts of believers, who want to answer the call to lay all on the Altar for Him. Tears often flow as individuals choose to follow His Will over their own desires. Still the needs are overwhelming, as the enemy of our souls is busy tempting people away from Christ. We have started doing 2 day ministry stints in Northern Macedonia to try and meet those needs better. [FYROMacedonia, is now officially known as Northern Macedonia and although that name doesn't appear to be well liked on either side of the border, it has been accepted, so we will see!] We are thankful that for us, these borders mean opportunities to spread the Gospel on both sides!



Refugee Supplies



Egyptian Christians
(censored for safety)



Jewish Visitors at
Berea Church

In our village, David continues to preach on a monthly basis and again many are being encouraged. We long to see some of those, who have attended church for years, coming to know Christ personally.

We have also been doing a number of international meetings with the emphasis on dealing with hurting Christians, some of whom have been driven from their fellowships for not 'jumping through enough of tyrannical leadership hoops.' Others have had major doctrinal differences or unbearable hurts, which caused them to leave. Some of the stories are heart-rending, but it has been encouraging to see them going through the hard times and yet still excited enough to send their family members, who live in different cities, to attend the meetings we are taking. It is still so true, He has 'set before us an open door, that no man can shut!' Revelation 3:8

One member of a local church, Emmanuel, 55 years old was killed returning home from his work as a shepherd, to care for his elderly mum. A heavily intoxicated man, who was very angry that his wife left him, went to her work and smashed up the place, and mowed down Emmanuel in a hit and run accident. Emmanuel had studied in Athens Bible College and preached in the USA. His name means God, with us and now He is with God!

After all our summer visitors left and before the teams arrived in September and October, we were able to squeeze a 3 night break in Corfu into our itinerary, to celebrate our 42nd anniversary. It was still good weather, and we were able to enjoy some rest, as well as sightseeing, using many opportunities to witness that came our way.



Camp



Three different teams of workers came over the month and Norman McCready stayed as the leader and liaison person the entire time. We deeply appreciate the sacrifice of time and work that he and Angela put into this project. Wilma's brother Neil & Jonathan [brother-in-law], who missed his 20th anniversary to be with us [thanks Elizabeth], joined the first team. It has been incredible to see what they all achieved in this month:

- A new drive around roadway has been completed
- Some pavements and doorsteps throughout the camp
- 4 new cabins built
- All 7 cabins now have windows, doors and electricity
- Plastering inside and outside of main meeting room
- Water pipes and electric cables throughout the site [underground with manholes for maintenance]
- Electric circuits and lighting to the main building and toilets
- 3 cabins totally insulated and dry-walled. And so much more!!

As we said before, no one could drive men to work as hard as they did! The sense of unity and purpose, plus intense love and fellowship, as we met for daily prayer was wonderful, and we had a lot of fun too!! God answered prayer, as daily we had the provision we needed to purchase the necessities and complete the projects. Philippians 4:19. We also had various friends, missionaries and visitors from other countries during this time.

Two heartbreaking pieces of news on the teams were: Alex [Charles & Bertha's grandson], was supposed to come out, but as his work refused him holidays he had to stay at home. Sadly, his dad Bryan passed away in the night, so it was God's provision, that Alex was home with his mum Pauline and sisters during this very difficult time. Stephen, who did come out for two weeks and worked very hard, was only home a day or two when his eldest son was asphyxiated in an accident. These have been terrible experiences and we continue to uphold them all in prayer.

It has been such a blessing to have the use of our neighbor's house to sleep people when we have larger groups, but due to ill health of the owner, that house is now up for sale, so may not be readily available for us next year. However, God knows, and He has allowed us to have it all this time, so will undertake for team accommodation in the future.

Interesting events!

One night, when David was collecting a team from the airport, they stopped at a Gyros shop. He got into conversation with two men and it turned out we had some mutual friends. After sharing the Gospel, one of them asked David to pray for him. Halfway through the prayer, he suddenly tapped David on the arm and stopped him. 'I don't want you to pray for God to change me, just to keep me healthy,' he declared!!! Isn't that so typical of people today, they believe God will answer prayer for health, wealth etc, but don't want to change themselves? 'Typical Northern Irish Missionary answer was, 'I don't tell you how to do your job, so don't you tell me how to do mine!' They were so delighted to meet the team, and gave them a box of peaches as a gift!! We returned later with literature.

When the local rubbish tip burst into flames. Inside minutes, 150 sq m of ground had been totally razed including big trees! The fire brigade had to come and deal with it!

Getting fruit and veg from the local market, David was introduced to a new Orthodox priest, who was not impressed with David's 'unclerical working clothes!' As the black-robed figure reached out his hand to be kissed, David shook it



Stephen



Fire at rubbish tip

firmly. The priest started cursing profusely and said, 'that is not what you are supposed to do'. He didn't realize David had understood his bad language until David rebuked him for it! Another vendor shouted over that David was his good friend! Ah well, Just another market morning!!!

We have had quite a few people with very big questions about faith recently and after a few discussions with one young man, David told him, 'You say you want to believe in Jesus, but you don't even read his book? How can you learn about someone without spending the time to find out what they have to say.' That spoke volumes and now this young man is avidly reading the Bible for himself. He has already worked his way through the Gospels and is amazed at how much more Jesus was and did than He had understood before. Please pray for Kostas, that he will be brought to realize his need of salvation.

Please pray for Vasso and her sister Sofi, Greeks living in Germany, born into a J.W. family, married into Orthodoxy, have dabbled in Buddhism and listened to Evangelicals. They are ready to listen to the Truth and are going to read the Bible through. Others, some already believers, have taken up the challenge to read the Bible completely, for the first time.

Our calendars arrived later this year, so we had a team of young folks from Katerini youth come on over the weekend, [even though we were in Bitola for ministry], wrapping and packing the calendars. This has made Wilma's job so much easier, and now they are being distributed. Macedonian Language calendars have been printed for the first time this year, which is a great joy for us. Unfortunately, they have also been delayed due to being sent to the wrong country. However, we will get them on time and take them to the various points for delivery by the people themselves. Watch this space for news of how the Lord worked in hearts.

This is the year we go to the USA, to be with our children and grandkids for December and January, so we will be able to give you a better picture of family news in our next letter. When we arrive Allyn will be on a trip to Jordan with World Help. Iain is busy with the Christmas events for the church.

Our contact address will be c/o Allyn Lyttle, 206 Twin Oaks Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24502, USA. Email & FB addresses remain the same. USA folks, if you want a visit or a church service, please call either Allyn: 434 665 9016, Iain: 434 944 5985 or email us.

We will be in Northern Ireland in February and for the first week of March, 2019 [D.V.]

Already we have some meetings booked:

January 31st Mourneview Men's Meeting 7.30pm,

February 12th Coagh Baptist Church, 7.30pm

February 19th Bethany, FP, Men's meeting 8pm

The dates will fill up quickly, so if you want a booking, please contact Charles. We will not be in Scotland or England this year, as we are returning earlier to Greece, since David is speaking at the English CCCF 50th reunion in May Spring Bank Holiday in 2019, and we have some other appointments around that time.

We hope to have a team of skilled workers for the camp in April/early May, and then another in Sept /Oct to continue the project.

May the real meaning of Christmas be deeper, its reality clearer, its friendships stronger, and its hopes brighter, as it comes around this year.

Yours because of Christ,

David & Wilma



Christmas gift calendars



Local Christian Youth

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All checks should be written out to TRBC, but

place 'For Mizpah Outreach' on the memo line.

All gifts are tax-deductible.

Other Contacts: