



Dear Praying Friends,

Again, 4 months have passed since our last letter went out, and although we can't say they were as profitable, as we would have liked, we did have some major **highlights, occasions** and **opportunities**. But as time has gone now never to return, have you been able to turn the situations caused by the virus into opportunities to witness for Jesus? Keep some tracts handy to pass out! One to be recommended is **Hope Beyond Coronavirus** by Roger Carswell. People are ready to listen, in many cases, as they search for some kind of hope or peace in this crazy world. We who know Jesus, know He is the only one who can give real Peace, and it is believing faith that leads to Hope! Show it and share it!!

All signs seem to indicate that Covid 19 is worse than previously anticipated, with some of the most ardent anti-mask mockers of the virus, falling to this dreadful malady. So much news, false and true is being bandied around that people are very confused, as to whether the 'draconian' type restrictions are necessary or an attempt at control. Others are uncertain whether they should have the vaccine or not, where and with what substances was it formed, will it give me Covid 19, has it been tested enough, or even, which vaccine is the most effective? It is for some, just too confusing and for others a lifeline to getting back to a normal life. Personally, we do not know what the future holds, but we do know who holds tomorrow and we trust Him with it all!

When the Children of Israel were facing slaughter, suffering and deportation to Babylon, God instructed Jeremiah to buy a field in his home town of Anathoth (Jeremiah 32:6-9). He did, believing that one day they would worship God again in this land. 70 years later, they did, because God has promised and He cannot lie! As yet, the Lord has not shown us we should give up working in Greece, or to change our field, but to finish what we started, and we know if He didn't want us to continue, He would let us know! Therefore, if we have to have Covid tests and/or the vaccine to travel, we will accept it gladly, although there doesn't seem to be any possibility to travel through Europe in the foreseeable future.

In recent months, we have had so many answers to prayer, where should we begin?

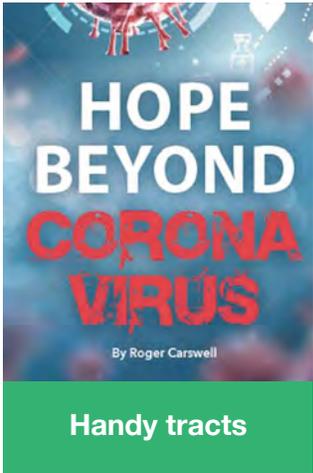
Number one on the list has to be the **3-week visit to Greece**, best summarized by Wilma as a 'miracle a day!' We had this window of opportunity as NGO's, with the purpose of preparing the containers sent out to Lesbos and our property, for distribution to the refugees. The journey was amazingly uneventful for us despite warnings to the contrary. While others waited in long queues to get permission to go further, to explain their reasons for travel, get instructions for their self-isolation or to get Covid tested, it was as if we were invisible walking through each stage.

Reaching our HQ and camp, the weeds had been kept well under control by our friends, for which we were very grateful. Some of the young girls from the church came out to help Wilma get the **calendars prepared and wrapped for distribution**, while the boys helped David with **yard work**. We had lovely times of fellowship outside, as the weather was just perfect for these weeks and we all benefitted from being together.

We were able to **meet our friends at the Greek border** with North Macedonia, even though police on both sides of the border said, 'No' at first!! It happened!! What a blessing it was to greet each other, catch up on news, pray together, and give them some family gifts for Christmas.

Doing the **calendar distribution**, while still trying to keep social distance and wear a mask, was a new challenge, not only for us, but also for those getting them, as the normal Greek greeting is to hug and kiss your cheeks!! However, many wonderful co-incidences enabled us to meet the **Right People in the most Unexpected Places!!** All 420 or so visits were able to be made personally, and God gave so many deep conversations!! * means accepted an extra Gospel booklet, which many people did!

- J. asked David to pray for her **critically ill father**. *
- Another close contact in a Drs waiting room, **admitted to being terrified**. David was able to present the Gospel to the entire roomful, which included an Orthodox Priest. *
- Another **J. sat in tears and admitted**, 'This is what I need!' We feel she is close to the Kingdom. *
- One **family asked prayer** for their daughter regarding work. After being away for 4 years while doing her studies abroad, as well as the number of people in for it, they were delighted when she got the job! They



Handy tracts



Wrapping the Calendars



Calendar distribution

brought a calendar to her grandma, who had moved away from the area. She was so delighted to get it she sat holding it for 8 hours, constantly commenting that she had not been forgotten. *

- One believer requested to be baptized in Philippi later this year when David returns.
- David was protected from **hornets** (imagine 2" female wasps with a reusable stinger), as he worked, unwittingly, below the nest for 2 days before noticing it!
- David was able to **preach four times** and amazingly everything dovetailed together and on one of these services, several 'friends from abroad' were present.
- The **containers didn't arrive on time**, but we were able to make all the preparations for their arrival and arrange for others to do the work when they did come. The paperwork, without which the container can't leave the docks was sent from Ireland by a courier, who didn't have a telephone number for us, and the address the firm gave them was incomplete. So we were waiting for the letter, the firm in Ireland was closed and couldn't give us a tracking number, and the courier had no way to find us! Finally, we got it all worked out on the last day, but now there would be no time to get it to the customs in Thessaloniki, before we had to leave for Athens. Amazingly, one of the officers who works there, lives close to Katerini and was able to take the letter to Thessaloniki the next day. That was a huge answer to prayer!
- We were very **tempted to stay in Greece** and not use our return ticket, and many of our friends were encouraging us to do just that, but we realized it would be a bad testimony and Greece was about to enter a period of severe lockdown, meaning our movements would have been severely restricted and the ministry curtailed. In fact, we were finishing the calendar deliveries to Thessaloniki as the city was being cleared for curfew.
- The next day on our journey out of Katerini (which was also closing down), we were asked to visit a man who has cancer of his spine with many metastasis. We had met spontaneously on other occasions and were glad to renew friendship. After we searched the Scriptures together, **J. accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his Saviour!!** Hallelujah!!
- We got the **last plane** for Dublin from Athens, before their lockdown and arrived safely back here just as lockdown in Eire was beginning. Talk about last minute!!! That was three weeks of 16-18 hour working days, but we were so glad to be there and so grateful for all your prayers, as we felt them and saw the results all the time!

As we said, the containers arrived at their destinations after we returned here, but they were well taken care of by others. The **container on Lesbos**, which cost us much more than anticipated, but was well worth the extra expense, was received with great appreciation! This was the first one permitted to land, after the debacle of the camp being burned to the ground, leaving 13,000 people sleeping rough, with no provisions for over a month. That almost new container, the contents having been distributed among the refugees, is now being used as accommodation for a couple of families on the island.

Getting the second **container placed onto our site in Northern Greece**, was a bit tricky for the crane company, but we had left all in charge of Christina, our right hand woman, who handled the whole situation excellently. Because this container was much older and less weatherproofed, Christina also arranged for some of the younger folks from the church, to empty the clothing into a good quality lined container, meaning it will remain dry until used. She also works with the refugees and has the keys, so can distribute the goods, as and when needed. We are very grateful to her, to the youth who helped immensely and to all of you who helped in any way to get these two containers sent out. A special thanks also to Clive Richardson Landscaping for allowing the containers to sit on his ground and Jamie for making it possible for people to get back and forth with donations. Multiplied thousands have received help because of all your help. Thank you!

We had **planned to be in Scotland** over Christmas with Wilma's family, and Allyn was joining us, but these plans were scuppered on the day we were due to travel, so, though disappointed, we had to accept that. It was a quiet Christmas for 3, but we also enjoyed Face Time with family in Scotland and USA, and of course, **it was wonderful to have Allyn** here for a whole 2 weeks, although he did have to work some while he was here. We had daily walks together and he did so much to make Christmas, New Year and David's big Birthday special!!

Yes, you got it right! **David is now 70 years young!!!** We want to thank all of you who wrote for His memory book and managed to keep it secret! He was totally delighted with it, has read it through completely four times,



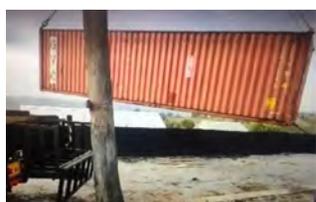
Distributing calendars to Ikea workers



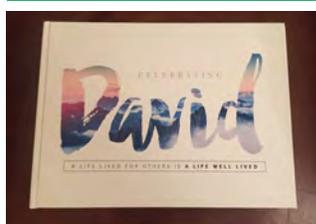
"J" accepted the Lord as his Savior.



Container reaches island of Lesbos



Container to our site in Northern Greece



David's 70th birthday memory book



Evangeline getting baptized



Charlize baptized by her father, Bryan



David can speak to your church digitally

and expressed every emotion under the sun (at least the happy ones), as he read the variety of memories, greetings, jokes, stories (true or vastly exaggerated) and poems!! Also, thank you for the many cards, gifts and good wishes he received. It was a lovely day, in spite of lockdown.

Our sons and their families have far less restrictions in USA (not that they have less Covid 19 cases) than we have here, and it's back to life as usual in most places, although Masks still seem to be required when meeting others or in stores, and for our boys most gatherings are restricted to family. It has been great to be able to Facetime more often with them and catch up on the news. The eldest of Jon Marc and Ashley's foster children has been relocated back to family, which means she is missed by them all, but the main goal of fostering is, that some family member steps up and is seen fit to offer the child a permanent home.

Evangeline, Jon Marc's daughter and **Charlize**, Bryan's daughter, were both baptized recently, and it was lovely to see them in photos/videos take that step of obedience to the Lord.

While trying to be 'content-ish' and wait for God's timing for our return, David has been doing zoom meetings as requested, taking services when premises were open, writing, studying, and using opportunities to witness, as they present themselves. He is also receiving Steroid injections and physio for a problem with the rotator cuff in his right shoulder. He is already seeing some improvement in both pain and movement. We remain always thankful to the Lord for so many answers to prayer in these days, as we ask Him to move in our land, and are excited to see how non-believers, tune into services online. Therefore, we are not really feeling the 'weight of the wait' too excessive, as most days, weather permitting, we have a walk along the local tow paths, through the city parks, or even a bit further afield when driving is allowed. We do appreciate the opportunity to spend time in the fresh air and feel better for it!

In the meantime, **David is available to speak**, whether in services with Coronavirus safeguards in place, by **Zoom, You Tube recordings** or definite directed prayer, whatever you need, just ask!!

Thank you for standing with us in prayer, support and care over this strangest of years, and we look forward to watching the Lord move in 2021!!

Your servants for His Kingdom,.

David & Wilma

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