



**Bleeding Heart
Flower**



**Both fully
vaccinated**

Dear Praying Partners, Friends and Family,

We have all been through a very different 14 months, but for UK at least, it looks like we are coming out the other side, giving cause for an upward swing to optimism and the hopeful defeat of Covid 19, as the roll out of vaccinations has progressed so well. Europe is a bit behind on its vaccination program, but we trust it will catch up soon. Let us not forget to pray for and support those lands where suffering is immense, with horrendous numbers of deaths and seriously ill people. In India, Brazil and many other places, help is not even available for those who have caught this awful sickness, and vaccinations aren't readily available for those who haven't yet succumbed.

The beautiful Bleeding Heart Flower has a folklore tale of unrequited love attached to it, but in reality, can remind us of the heart of Jesus bleeding for us and longing that we would love Him in return. God's finger in nature, wildlife, and scenery is really very evident, especially at this time when new life is blossoming. We have appreciated daily walks enjoying this amazing beauty, as well as time reading, in prayer and Bible study, although it is good to be able to see friends and family again, even in limited ways.

We have remained **involved in Zoom meetings and FaceTime**, albeit not as often as before, since many churches are getting back to limited number 'in - person' services, some of which we have managed to be present at either preaching or participating. No doubt, face to face is better, even if that face is covered with a mask, but even sitting in front of a computer camera is not as difficult as it once was!!

Both of us have had two vaccinations now, with relatively mild symptoms first time around and even less with the second. So we are very thankful for that, especially as we hear how sick some people have been as a result. It was a bit harder for us to get inoculated than usual, as having been outside the country for so many years, we were no longer on the NHS register and therefore didn't have a GP. So it took some time to get that worked out, but we now have a Dr and an NHS number for future reference, and it is good to have that behind us. They say, 'Every cloud has a silver lining' so this was one for us!

As for travel back to Greece: We are still leaning towards overland travel, but we realize that requires the other European countries along the way to allow us to drive through without Quarantine or expensive Covid 19 tests. [At the moment, one suitable for travel, costs around 120 pounds and only lasts 72 hours]. Some European countries are opening, so we will see how that goes.

If that doesn't work, we will fly out directly, as Greece, on the amber list now, is due to open up for vaccinated tourists in July/Aug. Meantime, Covid 19 tests are still required, but it may be unnecessary for those who are vaccinated, or could be made cheaper in the summer for travel.

This uncertainty over covid tests, quarantine and dates of restriction removal doesn't only affect us, but **our teams** who also want to arrange their visits, their work and family times. If we have to add Covid testing each way for each worker, that adds a lot more money to their trip out, and we don't know how restricted their movements will be once they get to Greece or if they would have to isolate on their return. Please pray for guidance for us and for each one who will volunteer this year to finish off this camp, Lord Wiling!

As if Coronavirus was not enough to consider on our return to Greece, **we also have the new Brexit rules to contend with**. We are as yet unsure whether we will be allowed to be in country for more than 3 months at a time, with 3 months in between spent outside the country, or whether the fact that we have a home there and a residence card changes that in any way. So it will be a new experience to sort all that out, but before we go, we need to work out our dates carefully to make sure we are present for the most important times, like teams being there and of course the Christmas /calendar Outreach. As you can imagine, this will take some organizing if it is to be a rule, and we will then have to decide where else to spend some months where we can be useful.

Because, we [like everyone else] are uncertain, as to when we can move, it is difficult to say whether we are available for meetings and for how long! This is one area we are not good at, we do like to have a calendar we can go by, but need to let the Lord do the leading and guiding, especially since He is the only one in control at this time.

Knowing this, David has agreed to be part of a drive in/tent mission [see photo below] We also hope to be involved in the prayer and preparations for that time. We are trusting the Lord to save souls, sanctify believers and deepen our walk with God. Our land is in dire need of revival, God's people are uncertain and discouraged, the country is in need of leadership and guidance in every area of life. As for those who don't know Jesus, their lives are tremendously difficult on many fronts, and with nowhere to go for comfort, in desperation, people are turning to medication or even suicide. We

are praying many will turn to Christ and let Him change them and carry these burdens. Please pray with us for that effort! Come along if you are in the area and bring your friends.

Goings on at home: One thing we have learned over these months at home, is that serving God is not dependent on our physical location, but more about our willingness to be used. **David has been witnessing** to people we meet on our walks, at the store, on the telephone, indeed, in any way opportunity should present itself, and has found many people open to talk about their spiritual state and the necessity of knowing Jesus. Some want to speak personally when the way to do so opens up. To that end, over these months, David was speaking to a cousin in England, who has been religious all his life, without the joy of having a relationship with Jesus. Through looking at Scripture together and discussing the matter over the phone, he decided to trust what God said and give his heart to Jesus, repenting of his sin. Yes, it is possible and there was a party in Heaven that night!! Luke 15:7,10.

It has been a real joy to encourage others to give out tracts and witness on their walks. We have even supplied tracts for some folks to do just that, and it is especially interesting to get into conversation with visitors to this country, as we call them 'Friends from Abroad', who need the Gospel too.

A friend Ian, whom David recently planned on visiting because his wife was ill, told him as he arrived at the door, that he had buried her the previous day. This was a shock to David, but Ian said, it was a blessing to him, that they could spend more time together and talk things through. The couple were only believers for 4 years, till cancer came calling and took its toll. We have since met a few times and Wilma has sent over some cooked food.

Another dear friend **Brian McFarland**, passed away suddenly in April. David has known Brian's family since teenage years and he worked for 20 years with SGA while also being an active elder in his local church. He left a great testimony behind, which was very evident at the wonderful memorial service which over 1,800 people have watched on the Richhill Baptist site so far. Please remember his wife Phyllis and family circle as they work through their grief.

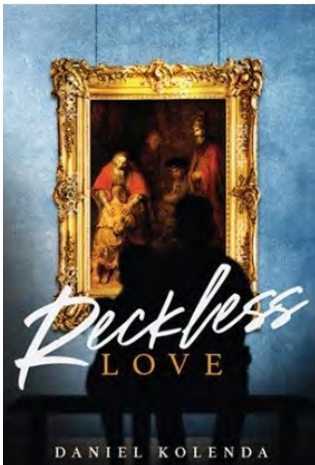
Recently, we have enjoyed speaking with a nephew of David's and his partner. They have a very sick little child who, although she brings them great joy, requires a lot of care and attention for her complex needs. She has surprised Drs thus far in her short life and the family acknowledge it to be a result of definite, believing prayer, so please pray for this little girl and her parents.

Stephen Brownlee, the most recent member of our Mizpah Committee, with his wife Rosie, shared their testimony on Brookborough Elim site on February 14th and to date over 32,000 people have viewed it and been amazed at what God has done for this couple and He is not finished with them yet!!! They loaned us a vehicle for 3 months when we were coming home, and 16 months later we still have it, even though they have had to buy another car, as their other car gave up. Everyone needs friends like these two!!

News from Abroad: Our dear friends **Venci and Kristina** in NMK have been very sick with Covid 19 these past weeks and although they are through the worst of it now, Venci is still having to have therapy for his lungs and some other issues that have arisen due to the virus. Please keep them in your prayers, as medication and treatment is not so readily available in their country.

In our previous prayer letter we talked about **J, the man with spinal cancer**, who had trusted Christ as Savior. Since our last letter, his father, who has only been a Christian 6 years and cried with joy when his son got saved, has gone home suddenly to be with the Lord. This has not just left an aching hole in the family, he was J's carer, and his mother is just not able to attend to his needs. Please pray for them at this time.

Filipos, our delightful little prayer warrior, has been back in hospital again, although there isn't a lot they can do which is of any real benefit to him long term. Emotionally, this is a huge drain on the family, and they need you to pray, not only for Filipos, but for strength and resilience for them too. God can heal this little lad, and use his testimony, to reach



Tracts distribution



Filipos

out to others.

Our teams in Greece continue to work among the refugees, ministering to folks in the camps, taking them to hospitals, dentists, doctors, helping them fill in their applications for all sorts of things and telling them about Jesus wherever possible. We send them finance regularly to enable this work to go on. Please pray on for them, as they labor on the front lines.

We are getting good reports about the **student we are supporting** through university these days. She is in contact with a church and youth group, earlier on zoom only, they are now allowed to meet outside, and that does help to keep homesickness and loneliness at bay.

Family news: David has pretty good use of his arm and shoulder already, and still has some Physio sessions to take but the progress is quite amazing. Thank you for praying. We are also getting much needed dental care while we are at home, so that is good, even though we might sometimes not think so, but, no gain without pain!!

Bryan has been through a very rough time with double pneumonia which at first was not very responsive to the antibiotics he was given. No sooner had he gotten over that, than it was time for his Covid jabs. He had quite a severe reaction to his first, but thankfully the second was not so hard on him, and he is back to good health again!!

Jon Marc and Ashley have moved to a bigger house for their growing, foster/adoption/biological family, and were no sooner shifted, when the next little foster baby arrived. But they are very happy and at Easter announced they are expecting a new arrival in October. That will be three babies under 14 months in the house alongside the other older children, so they are kept busy and still have time for church work!! To date all the adults in our immediate family are vaccinated, except Ashley due to the pregnancy. All the grandkids are doing well and looking forward to various summer activities.

Yes, these are uncertain days, and it is becoming obvious, even to many unsaved, that the only constant is the Triune God and His Word. Therefore, we need to stand strong for the principles He has set us, and continue to reach as many as possible with the steadfast hope of the Gospel. Thank you so much for your continued prayers and support to be able to reach out by whatever method we can at the moment. We all, who know Him, are His Messengers, and people desperately need to hear that message! Please pray and remember those of our brothers and sisters who are being persecuted for their faith in Christ, for those who are suffering for standing up for God's principles, and for those who feel weak and feeble, to be strengthened and realize they are being upheld in the place of prayer.

Your servants for Christ's Kingdom,

David & Wilma

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