

Dear Family, Friends and Faithful Prayer Partners,

Over our many years of missionary service, several of you have commented that 'if we were not going through a crisis, we were coming out of one or one was about to hit us!' When you read this **'150 special'** you will realize things haven't changed, but neither has our God, who has protected and guided us, and our family, faithfully over these many years. To have the assurance that we are never alone, to know the promise of Hebrews 13:5, is as true now as it was when it was given, and His presence is always with us makes it all possible, but also makes us more aware of how difficult it must be to go through life's crisis' if one doesn't know the Lord! May this make us even more keen to let folks know how to have this peace!

Following our USA winter trip, we had a few weeks in Northern Ireland taking meetings and preparing for finally being able to drive overland to Greece. The preparation didn't turn out to be as simple as we had anticipated. When we went to pick up our camper where it had been stored for 3 months, we found **mice** had gotten through nets covering the outlet vents, [which had been moved unknown to us, during an underbody power washing]! These small but mighty creatures had devastated the vehicle from front to back. Carpets, mattress, the roof air conditioner, many boxes of food, clothing and medicines which were stored in there, were all completely destroyed. It all had to be stripped down to the basics and replaced, or everything that was salvageable had to be thoroughly scrubbed and disinfected. The destruction these little monsters caused cost thousands of pounds, much of which, praise God, was met by dear praying friends, for which we are truly grateful. The most difficult part of all this was the effect the mice urine had on David's lungs. He has always been allergic to mice, but being in a confined space with the stench of the urine, so affected his lungs that he had to go back on inhalers continually for some weeks. He hasn't had inhalers to that extent for over 40 years, and even now months later, he still has some breathing problems.



Finally, we were able to leave, with a newly outfitted van and we are grateful not only to you who prayed and paid, but for the businesses who set aside time in their busy programs to prioritize the work needed on our vehicle to get us going. We also had a very full trailer to tow behind and were still unsure of how the Brexit rules would affect us bringing it into Greece.

During these weeks, 3 praying friends went to be with the Lord:

Margaret Spence, whom David visited just a few days before she passed on to Glory. She had sung a hymn to him while in hospital. 2 weeks earlier, David had gone to visit, but had gotten held up in the lift by a security guard who wanted to talk. Just as he arrived at the ward, he was told, covid had broken out and was confirmed just 2 mins before so he could not go in. The Lord's perfect timing as David could have become a carrier or been infected if he had been on his planned time schedule.

Gordon Knox, has travelled an incredible journey since he was diagnosed and had amazing witnessing opportunities over these past months. Over the phone, David and he had talked, when David felt led to share Ephesians 6:20. Sudden silence, then a tearful, but overjoyed friend shared that that was his personal verse for the whole journey.

Myra McLean, a lovely Scottish lady, who first met David at a barn meeting at her home 50 years ago. He was able to speak and pray with her over the phone before she went to her heavenly home.

All of those people ran their race faithfully and are enjoying the presence of the Lord, but they all leave behind loved ones who really need your prayers to carry them through, some to salvation and others through the grief of loss.

The unprovoked, unnecessary, but not entirely unexpected attack by **Russian dictator Putin against Ukraine**, shocked the world and started protest marches and prayer meetings with fasting in many churches right across the globe. 1,000's have been slaughtered, some following torture. Rape has been once again, used as a weapon of terror and millions have fled their home cities and towns for other countries, mostly in Europe. Yet, despite these desperate atrocities, daily we are hearing of answers to prayer in this land where we once ministered and saw God at work in salvation and blessing! We have made contact with some of the refugees, who came





to Thessaloniki, leaving behind their husbands and sons to fight, and we will be helping these refugees where possible in the coming months. They were so thankful to receive copies of God's Word. These refugees are very different from those we have been working with up until now, in that they were satisfied with their lives in Ukraine, are not looking to start again in any other country and all want to go home once this war is over!

Our son, Allyn, representing World Help, was in Ukraine during the early days of the war. He had set out for Poland and Romania to help organize centres for refugees, and look at the needs, but it was no surprise to us to find that he was right in the middle of things inside Ukraine, interviewing those fleeing and helping organize escape routes etc. We actually heard him on National news from the USA. He will be returning there soon and we ask for a prayer covering for them, as they travel and work to make a difference in the world!

It was also lovely for us to see him for a few days when he was passing through UK on his return to USA.

Our journey to Greece reminded us of three very different ferry boats:

1st – Dublin to France – was a dream crossing on a brand new ship!

2nd – The ferry we usually took from Italy caught fire off Corfu and 11 truck drivers were burned to death.

3rd – The replacement ferry to Igoumenitsa, was a total nightmare, as it wallowed, shuddered and corkscrewed its way through stormy seas, with mountainous waves for 11 horrendous hours. What Paul must have gone through for 14 days doesn't bear thinking about. Wilma soldiered on but David was as sick as a dog!! Who wouldn't be a missionary? It was great to finally arrive back home!!!

We have new neighbours from Galway and England, living in the house where we kept our team of workers over many years. Richard and Aggie actually came on the ferry a week before it caught fire!!

Everything in our home was under control, except a few minor repairs, and it was nose to the grindstone to get things going again, and of course taking meetings in the locality. We were so glad to be settled in again and to see those we hadn't seen, some for 3 years.

One **youth meeting** was on the theme, 'All or Nothing', based on Revelation 3, and afterwards many came up wanting to give more of themselves to God!

Next day in Berea, was a baptism service for a young lady called Theodora. Unknown to us, the Pastor's wayward daughter, also called **Theodora**, was sitting beside Wilma. During the message she kept nudging Wilma, saying, 'That was for me!' No sooner was the service over than she came to the front, kneeling in tears and gave her life to Jesus. We spent time together in the afternoon and praised the Lord for what He had done!



Suddenly, word came through that **Tanja's mother had passed away**. She had been ill for many years, and David had promised to attend to her final service. We had a family memorial service, which turned out to be a real comfort to this family, many of whom are unsaved Roman Catholics. In the few days we were there, we were able to see some old friends and speak at one house fellowship in German! We will miss Christa, but will meet again and are glad she is now enjoying life with her Saviour.

After returning from Austria, David visited and prayed for a lady diagnosed with cancer a few weeks earlier. While at the home he met a young lady, who on his last visit had been very far from God. Now her heart and her life had been transformed by Jesus. Living in Germany, and working as a teacher, **Maria** has been threatened if she doesn't stop sharing her faith and although she has refused, as yet, nothing has been done against her. She requested prayer for an issue that she had not felt comfortable sharing with anyone up until then, and announced that she felt God touching as they prayed. God is still the Great Physician!

Soon we learned that **our eldest son Bryan's** problems with keeping food down, which he had first thought was the same tummy bug all the kids had recovered from, had escalated, so much so, that he was no longer able to even keep water down. He had been 3 times to his Dr and was treated for various conditions, but now he was admitted to ICU via the emergency room, totally dehydrated, with his kidney and liver function grossly deteriorated. The first 24 hours were critical to stabilize him and the next 24 to find the cause.

Eventually, after trying to straighten out his bowel through his throat unsuccessfully, he was taken to surgery for removal of a blockage and intestinal resection, being assured that there was nothing more sinister present. However, after pathology it turned out to be malignant and he is now under the care of the Cancer hospital. Needless to say, many of you and others have prayed through this whole situation for Bryan and the family, some even fasting as they prayed and he is very grateful for those prayers.

Knowing how ill he was, some friends let Jon Marc know that they were willing to pay our passage to the States, to see Bryan and how we could help out. So, we made plans to go immediately and nurse him back to health for a couple of weeks. We couldn't stay longer, as we expected teams arriving on May 16th, so we knew we would have to make the best use of our time with him, but were so grateful for the opportunity.

The day after we arrived we got Bryan home from hospital, and before we left were able to see him back on his feet, eating small nutritious meals and going to work most days. We are so thankful, for we know that all this progress was in direct answer to your prayers for him and us. We got the opportunity to work with the children, driving them back and forth to school, to sport activities, and to other appointments they had to attend. Most days we were all fed by the rest of our family there, who took a lot of time to help us and make sure we were looked after too. We were also all able to make some preparations to help Bryan in his next journey with chemo and we know the family and church family will take care of them. Please continue to remember Bryan in these months! He has had his major scans and contrast MRI's and will get the full story and treatment plan on the 24th May, when he has his next appointment.



Before going to the USA, we had planned, with the members of the Katerini church youth, to get the cabins painted for the work team to use, since we no longer had accommodation next door. So during our absence, **they came and painted five cabins in preparation**, which we are so thankful about.

It was USA Mother's day while we were there and our boys sent us for a short trip on our return, to have a break following the challenges of the past weeks, and before the next round begins. We thoroughly enjoyed the relaxation and wrote most of this letter from a view overlooking Platamonas harbour!

On a different note, **David's brother, Ian**, is forming a team to play Golf, under the name of Mizpah Outreach, but all monies raised will go towards the work of **Hope to Families**, under the auspices of Mark & Heather Taylor.

These past months, we have been so very conscious of the effect of prayer, both praying for people and having people to pray for us! There were too many amazing answers to tell you them all, but some of them we share for your encouragement.

1. Longing to meet an old friend, Jimmy with whom David had long lost contact, he was amazed when one of his best friends, Johnny was co-incidentally asked to give him a lift. Soon, DV, we plan to meet!
2. Felt burdened to call Deborah, only to find that her brother had just passed away. We prayed together!
3. Burdened to call another Prayer partner in the middle of an unexpected and Volatile Family Crisis, which after prayer was soon resolved!
4. Was asked by a lady to pray for her elderly sister, who was taken seriously ill. David told her that sometimes this is how God takes His children home and within an hour, she had called back to say that as we had been speaking God had taken Nettie to Heaven!
5. Praying with a Christian lady, who had just inadvertently killed a dog on the road.
6. Many amazing deputation meetings and great evangelistic opportunities. Some are longing to be saved, but lack assurance of God's keeping power.
 - a. A house visit which turned into a straight evangelistic meeting with a family and friends who hadn't been together in years. Please pray!
 - b. A wonderful time of sharing with a R.C. brother and sister. Please pray!
 - c. Disappointment at being told for the 3rd time not to return to the gypsy camp!



During the mission in Stewartstown, Elsie Moynan, whom we knew from Faith Mission days, had asked if David would he do a mission in Cormeen, Monaghan. This is Lord willing going to take place the first two weeks in August and we are looking forward to that time. When there, we will meet with some of the family of Gillian, a young lady who was wanting to go on a short term team to Mozambique and who David met while out doing some visiting. Things did fall into place for Gillian to go to Mozambique and she was delighted to tell David she had gotten saved at Elsie Moynan's childrens meetings!

As we are still under Brexit ruling, at least for this year, we will be in England taking some meetings in June, moving up into Scotland near the end of the month for a couple of strategic services, before returning to NI in July and back to Greece early September.

These dates are as follows:

June 12th	Bridgenorth Evangelical Church, 10.30 and 18.00
June 15th	Beeches Evangelical, Birmingham, 19.30
June 19th	Kingsway church, Kings Heath, 11.00 [David preaching]
June 19th	Kingsway church, Kings Heath, 16.00 [Mission update & prayer meeting]
June 22nd	Balintore United Free Church, open to all fellowships [19.30]
June 26th	Fort William Baptist 11.00 & 18.30
July 3rd	Tansy mission Hall 20.15
Last week of July	Visitation in Monaghan
August 1-14	Nightly mission in Monaghan

Please remember to pray for these dates! Thank you

A number of our workers, led by **Norman Mccready** have already arrived and others will follow on next week. Please pray for their safety in work, to get as much done as possible, and for a time of blessing as they meet and reach out to the local believers.

Thank you so much for your continued prayers and support.

Your servants for His Kingdom,

David & Wilma



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