



Dear Prayer Partners, Family & Friends,

Long ago, people used to tell us that as you got older the years will simply start to fly - we are at that point now and time never stands still!!!

Parts of our world are still aflame with war, bloodshed, hatred and bitterness. Ukraine, Israel and Nigeria particularly need our prayers. Please pray for God's faithful people, who still continue to evangelize in these areas, despite personal risk. We continue to see God's hand of blessing as we get opportunity to share the Gospel, both in Greece and North Macedonia. It is surprising how often a simple greeting, remark or question can open up a tremendous opportunity to witness. One of these occasions was when two local men volunteered to help David at the Mizpah HQ and we had assumed both men were believers. One young man suddenly asked, *'Can anyone really know they are saved?'* What a joy to be able to share from 1 John 5:13 that we really can know with assurance!



Camp plans have been submitted to the authorities and the process will take some time to complete, depending on what alterations they require us to make. We have paid the costs for the initial work to be done by the civil engineer to get the permits. We have used the multi-purpose building on a couple of occasions to host larger groups and look forward to the property being used for its intended purpose. Some bookings are already tentatively being taken for Autumn 24.

For years our HQ has been surrounded by a cheap wire fence covered in black plastic, but in the last few years we have attempted to change that. In late October, we decided to tackle the last part of that fence on one major side of the property for greater security while we are gone. Building framework, digging holes, welding, sinking support poles and finally cutting and joining the metal, all went well till the wind storms began to rise, making walking with the metal sheets a bit of a challenge. David said, *'If we were using skateboards, it would have taken us to the beach'* [8kms away]. Finally it was finished and is a good strong deterrent to anyone wanting into the property.

Our neighbors, who have decided to foster pups for a local vet, needed place to keep them and therefore a big shed needed cleared out, so Jessie [JCB] became a valuable asset in making journeys to the dump.

One of the local ladies, 'K' who has been a friend for a few years, had a serious accident on 20th November when she was knocked down and dragged 50' by a car as she crossed the road without looking. She sustained serious injuries and facing limb amputation etc, they put her in a coma. She has suffered kidney failure which prevented her surgery taking place. David was allowed into the Critical Care Unit to pray with her although she remains unconscious. She has been to church events, but doesn't know the Lord.

The bond of Christian Love & Fellowship between those we minister to and ourselves, continues to grow and it is with joy that we travel to encourage different groups of believers.

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After picking up the calendars, we enjoyed a lovely day of food, fun and fellowship as some of the youth and other friends came out to help with the wrapping and packing of these.

We also had the joy of supplying hundreds of calendars to contacts outside the country, hundreds of refugees as well as over 500 personally to individuals, who want them every year.

Calendar Outreach is always a great joy and one of David's favorite times of the year. People are open to discuss and ask questions, deepening relationships, with some even requesting prayer:

- An Electricity store where David was introduced to the man who 'stole' a calendar last year! An incredible opportunity, leading to several workers requesting one.
- A hardware store where one man has refused for years. His best friend kept inquiring about Bryan and on hearing of his miraculous recovery, this man asked for one this year. PTL
- At the Ikea store in Thessaloniki, one of the young ladies who has been getting a calendar since the refugee crisis



Calendar Outreach



Young Ladies  
at IKEA

began in 2015, greeted us so enthusiastically that two other workers came and asked for calendars as well.

- At a Drs office, one of the secretaries talked of how she used to read the calendar at her Grandma's house. When asked if she would like one, she was thrilled and wants to be added to the list.
- At the building authorities offices - two lovely ladies asked to be put on the regular list of calendar recipients.
- 'A,' someone whom we have visited many times over the years, has convinced herself, that she is not as bad as others she knows, so she doesn't require repentance or salvation. So sad!
- One funny incident, was when David had parked at one place for hours doing calendar outreach, rushed home to eat and return to a counselling session, parking again in the same car park. After the session, he came out to find the car had vanished. David thought it must have been stolen and a local businessman, said the police may have lifted it. On arrival at the police station, they ask if he was sure he had parked it there and he said he was sure. Anyway, they sent out two motorcycle units to search the area and find the car, 50 m from where David thought he parked it!!! Senior moment!!! The car was not in the place he had remembered parking in earlier in the day. Everyone laughed and for days people were greeting with, *'Have you lost your car? Do you know where you parked? Etc?* The silver lining is that 4 police officers now get calendars, not just 2 as on previous years!!!

We locked up our camp, HQ and were ready to go when two of our closest prayer partners came to pray with us. As we prayed, David commented that all our pulses were beating in time and one of the ladies commented that it was *'because our hearts are as one!'*

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Travelling from NI to Greece or vice versa, we usually have three ferries to catch and in spring it is usually calm, but not so in winter and David was already anticipating the sea sickness caused by rough seas and turbulence. In December, despite all the warnings to the contrary, all the crossings went well and we were grateful to those who prayed.

However, we had a few other exciting moments along the way!!

- The generator stopped working just before we left. Not to be outdone, Wilma turned all the meals she had prepared into soup that she could heat on the gas stove.
- Two of the vehicle batteries died at the same time which we were able to replace
- Just leaving the street - one tyre went flat and we had to change the tyre and get a repair.
- Driving from Ancona to Milan, Italy, we stopped at a service station to find we had lost one wheel and no one had stopped us or pointed it out. Still we had three so we continued
- Reaching North of Milan - we heard screeching and stopped in the service station to find the second axle is cracking and getting ready to break. We had 27 hours to wait to be picked up and taken to a garage. As two new axles have to be gotten and fitted, we had to leave it there for repair after which a friend from Switzerland will collect it and bring it to his farm.
- So we continued our journey without a trailer until
- On the last leg of the journey from Edinburgh to Fort William, at a roundabout near Falkirk, we were rear ended by a passenger bus. Now we know what it feels like to *'be hit by a bus'*
- The bus driver was responsible and at the moment the insurance is deciding the best scenario. The police allowed a friend from the area to drive behind us, that we could park at his place overnight, and also gave permission for us to drive on to our destination in the light of day. We were very grateful for his help! Please make this a real matter of prayer. One of the 1st people on the scene was a very nice young policeman from Portadown. He was amazed when he talked with Wilma and came and asked David if she was was Ok. *'Why?'* said David, *'Cos she is so calm - normally a woman would be distraught at this!'* *'Yes, says David, but compared with what she has been through in life, this isn't serious!'* This led to a bit of discussion about what we do, and after talking about warfronts, iron curtains etc, he said, *'Oh I see, from that perspective, this really isn't so tragic!'* Really, the bus driver was in a far worse state of shock, but it gave us a good opportunity to witness to him, police officers, passengers and witnesses. *'God makes no mistakes'* even when life throws us a curveball!!! We also had a lovely time of sharing for a couple of hours with the Christian friends who came out to help us get to a safe place.
- The next day, amid terrible storms, we headed on up to Fort William. The news warned people to stay at home to avoid Storm Gerrit. This was in our favor, as it meant much less traffic on the road when the winds blew us so often right across. We were required to drive really slow, and at one point David said to Wilma, *'I feel like a 16 year old learning to drive.'* To which she promptly retorted, *'But, you're driving like a 73 year old with a death-wish!!'* Ha Ha!! A sense of humor does help! We also had to deal with lots of flying debris and trees or branches blowing over the road. Two out of the five fallen trees we encountered, were a slight problem for us, but thankfully, we arrived on time for David to speak at an afternoon service and we stayed there with family for Christmas for the first time in 4 years.

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Trailer Brokedown



Hit By a Bus



## Allyn Visited

Much to everyone's delight, Allyn joined us there and we had a lovely time, despite heavy colds etc Then we came to NI for New Year. We had family time together and we all enjoyed seeing everyone. Allyn stayed for David's birthday and we had a great day. Then we drove him to Dublin for his return journey and we are back to the 'auld yins alane'.

Please pray for Allyn's safety, as he continues to travel to volatile needy areas with his work.

Bryan is still cancer-free and Iain and Jon Marc continue with their family, church and work responsibilities. As a Christmas gift surprise, the boys gave us a trip to the USA for the first 2 weeks of March, to see our latest Grandchild and enjoy them all!! We are delighted!!

Already one man has come back to the Lord since we got here and we are looking forward to what God is going to do in the next number of weeks. Below is a list of those who already have booked. Please be in touch if you want a date this year.

### January

Sun 14th – 7pm Dungannon Elim  
Tues 16th – 8pm Loughbrickland Prayer Meeting  
Thurs 18th – 7pm Mountcollyer Mission Hall  
Fri 19th – 7.30pm Mizpah Committee  
Sat 20th – 7.30pm The Barn, Lifeboat, Dungannon  
Sun 21st – 11.30am Stewartstown Christian Fellowship  
Sun 21st – 8pm Ballyrobert Mission Hall  
Sat 27th – 7.30pm CCCF AGM  
Sun 28th – 8.15pm Tansy Mission Hall  
Tues 30th – 10-12MD Dollingstown Coffee Morning  
Tues 30th – 8pm Ballywillwill Gospel Hall  
Wed 31st – 1-3pm Mount Zion Lunch club

### February

Sun 4th – 11am Hulls Hill Elim  
Sun 11th – 11am Belfast DCF  
Sun 11th – 7pm Bottear Mission Hall

Sun 18th – 5.30pm Derrykeevan Mission Hall  
Sun 18th – 7.30pm Derrycrew Mission Hall  
Sun 25th – 11am Ards Evangelical  
*Wed 28th-March 13th USA*

### March

*Fri 15 – Travel To Scotland*  
Sun 17th – 11am Alva Baptist Church  
Sun 24th – 11am Drumchapel UF  
Wed 27th – 7.30pm Balintore UF  
Fri 29th-Sun 31st – Fort William Baptist

### April

3rd 6pm Greater Grace, Backford, Chester  
7th 11am Blakelaw Evangelical Church, Newcastle  
14th 11 am Beeches Evangelical, B'ham

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Remember, you are special, because He made you and He never makes mistakes!!! Thanking you so much for carrying us in prayer and support through 2023. Wishing you a year of blessing, resting in God's Will and experiencing His Power for 2024.

Your servants for His Kingdom,

*David & Wilma*

## Contact & Support

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### Vehicles & Work Teams:

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### Financial Matters (U.S.A.):

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Thomas Road Baptist Church  
1 Mountainview Road, Lynchburg, VA 24502  
*All checks should be written out to TRBC, but  
place 'For Mizpah Outreach' on the memo line.  
All gifts are tax-deductible.*

Field Address:

Other Contacts: