mizpahoutreach

Prayer Letter #158 May 2024





Camper Repaired





Dear Prayer Partners and Friends,

Our time in GB has just come to an end and we are enroute back to Greece. By the time you get this letter, we will have arrived and be preparing for our last two teams of volunteers for setting up the camp.

Looking back over the time at home, it was a whirlwind of activity, made more intense by the fact that the van and trailer needed to be sorted out after the incidents. As always, we were very grateful for the use of the apartment and also for the loan of a VW Passat from Roy, which was a great help to us.

The van was written off by the insurance company, we were able to buy it back as it was really impossible to get an equivalent vehicle, suitable for our needs, anywhere close to the price they were willing to give us for our own van. First, we had the chassis checked by a reliable source and made sure that all the damage was not structural. One of our prayer partners who is an expert in Damp proofing and repairs, Stephen Bickerstaff, did an incredible rebuilding job on it and it went through its strict MOT with flying colours. The insurance company had to put it back on the road, despite the dire predictions which had been presented to us. All of this took extra time from us, which we would have liked to have had for deputation and visiting, but at least it was all possible, thanks to our many helpers.

One day, while driving on the M1, David felt he should visit an old friend who was an office manager with no particular reason why. On arrival, he told her that fact and she replied with, 'Well, I do!' She had read about the camper incident and talked to her boss about it. He took David to his home and showed him his own camper, [smaller, but much newer], which he was willing to loan us to do our deputation in Scotland and England if it became necessary. If it had been impossible to get our van fixed, he would even discuss a price for selling it to us. It was such a comfort to know there could be an alternative if the problems had become insurmountable.

In Italy, the company could not find the parts to fix the trailer, so asked us to send them over from N. Ireland. When we added up the costs of parts, flying them over and then getting the trailer back to us, it was not expedient to go that way for such an old trailer. So we were able to buy a second hand, 17-year younger trailer and another Stephen, a mechanic, made it ready for the road, basically for the same money as we would have needed to repair the old trailer. Many of the parts etc were paid for by friends of ours, for which we are deeply grateful. With the help of another missionary friend who speaks good Italian, we were able to 'dispose' of the old one free of charge to us.

While visiting in Stewartstown, Monaghan and Cookstown, it was encouraging to see how many of the contacts are still going on with the Lord. Please pray for E., M., & S., who really need the Lord and T., who is still very broken-hearted!!

David had the joy of visiting with one of his landladies from his single days, who became like a mother to him and a good friend and prayer partner for us for all these years. She was in hospital and still recognised David as soon as she saw him and they had a great chat about the family and the past memories. She went to be with the Lord soon after that visit and we had the privilege to be at her funeral. She was one of many of our dear elderly prayer partners, who have passed away in recent months and we miss their input into our lives and work

We visited with many friends who are suffering serious health issues, were able to pray with them and trust they feel encouraged. We also had the privilege of doing Zoom calls with people we could not manage to see and also making a You Tube video testimony. A brother in Poland asked David to write an article for a Christian magazine and this brother translated it into Polish for that. Gordon Wallace gave David a chance to be on air with him and his Country Gospel broadcast, which he really enjoyed doing.

In general, our meetings were blessed with a sense of God's Presence and many shared about God's dealings and renewed their promises to pray. One lady trusted the Lord for Salvation after a meeting in Northern Ireland.

Two of our refugee friends who came to Greece from Syria, have now ended up in Northern Ireland and we had the privilege of meeting up and helping them a bit more on their journey. They are witnessing faithfully





Charlize Driving Grandad



Youngest, Valor, at Scottish Night



Shayna & Alyna
Perform in Concert



Roadside Help: Locksmith

for the Lord and he has led one of his countrymen to the Lord since his arrival. Please remember them in prayer!

After 8 cancer free months, another tumour was discovered on the site of Bryan's original surgery. The Christmas gift of a couple of weeks in USA was for us perfect timing in God's Awesome Providence and Sovereignty. We were not only to be introduced to lovely Valor, see our other 20 grandkids and the rest of the family, but also were able to take Bryan to the hospital for his port insertion. He is doing well with his chemo and the plan so far is to do this for 3 months to shrink the tumor, then surgery, followed by whatever they decide is necessary afterwards. He has already had a pretty painful dose of shingles since beginning the chemo, but has come through that well too. Thank you so much for continued prayer for him, we have no doubt that the Lord is carrying him through each day.

On the way to the airport in Dublin, the sat nav led us the wrong way to the new car park. Leonna, who David stopped to ask for directions, took us the entire way and when we were thanking her she told us someone had done it for her and she was paying it forward!! She was very happy to accept Gospel tracts and give us her phone number in case we need help again!!

Bryan picked us up at the airport with Catalina and Evangeline. The girls were carrying two huge posters welcoming, 'Grandad home from prison' and telling him that 'Orange jumpsuits weren't his best look'. It was a very funny moment and was apparently the idea of Charlize, who wasnt even able to be there!! Others in the airport, started to make a wide detour around us, as they read the messages!!!

These two weeks were filled with memories and we were so grateful for all the effort they all put into having us there. Some of the highlights were:

- Grandad being driven around by two granddaughters, one just passed her test and the other just learning!!
- Family meals and get togethers!
- Celebrated a belated Scottish night.
- Attended Shayna's baptism
- Saw the premiere of Karen Kingsbury's first movie, 'Someone like You.'
- At a men's breakfast had the privilege of praying for a 'first timer' with a serious personal issue needing dealt with.
- David got to attend a 2 day mens conference arranged by lain, while Wilma went to DC with Allyn and lain's 2 eldest girls.
- Visited the Bible Museum, where it was recorded that men were burnt to death for translating this Precious book, which many don't even bother to read today!!!
- Saw our Grandaughter's in concert!

Flying home, David had a really good talk with a RC called Zack & Meredith, who took booklets.

Arriving in Northern Ireland, we had one day where we were able to spend some hours with the Lyttle family and it was a great day. Then it was time to finish packing up the trailer and leave for our deputation in Scotland, during which time we left the Trailer with friends in Edinburgh. We had some very special meetings in Scotland, even visiting a couple of new churches and having a number of combined services with various denominations attending.

We somehow managed to get ourselves locked out of the van on a Saturday afternoon, and you know not many locksmiths work on the weekend, so it took 6 hours for to get us back inside, but the RC gentleman who opened it for us, was willing to take a booklet and read it.

While taking meetings in England, we left the trailer at Bridgnorth Evangelical Church, as we travelled from North to Midlands for meetings. We are very grateful for places to leave the trailer as it makes life a bit easier especially in the cities and of course saves fuel!! We were able to visit and catch up with more people this time, some we haven't seen for many years and its just like we were never apart.

Our generator had died and travelling around without one is not so easy. Imagine our joy when we were given one that is 2.2 KVA to help us on the way back. Thank you so much to those who gave it!!

By the time you get this letter, we will be back in Greece, Lord Willing.

As we said at the start, we have a team due to arrive to work from the 15th May till the 29th. We would value your prayers for the men's safety and that most of the work will be finished this time, so we can host those who have already booked to come this year. Also we trust to have the needed permits in place to function properly.

Not long after our team leaves, David will officiate at the wedding of Christina and Kostas. She has been an amazing help to us over the years and we look forward to them becoming a couple and making a difference together, as they continue to witness in the community.

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Thank you for all your prayers and support and we will try to keep you posted as we see things happening. Please pray on, we know the difference when many are praying!!!

Your servants for our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

David & Wilma

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