

MIZPAH OUTREACH

Prayer Letter #99
March 2009



Dear Friends,

Reunited with Family

We returned recently from visiting the family in the States, and celebrated, two Births, Thanksgiving, six Birthdays (including especially Christmas, Jesus birthday), New Year, Baby Dedication, President's inauguration and Super bowl!! Not to mention the four Advent Sundays when we had friends and family take part in an informal time in our home, reunions with the students and church folks who came out to Greece, as well as meetings with friends old and new allowing opportunities to share the work and the Word. All in all, it was a great experience and there was certainly no time for boredom!! We thank very sincerely all those who took us out to eat, came to spend time with us, or who did anything else to make our stay more enjoyable. Special thanks to those folks whom we know pray for us regularly.

We were very thankful to live in a beautiful home provided by Thomas Road Baptist church, which was constantly filled with family, friends, fellowship and lots of food while we were there. Someone on seeing the house quipped that *'you would almost be willing to leave heaven and come here for the weekend.'* They also provided us with a car to get us around and this was an added blessing. It was a thrill to be part of the church fellowship and see the work growing, in the church, schools and university. One of the challenges facing the church is integrating new believers in to the body, by making sure they fit into cell groups which meet their needs. Iain is responsible for much of this work, as well as continuing working in the Men's ministry. We were astounded and excited to see definite growth in many fellowships in the area, and realise this is only possible through the Lord blessing fervent prayer. To this end there was a special weekend conference on prayer we were able to attend with Peter Lord as the main speaker.

The grandchildren were, of course, highlights of our visit and it was especially exciting to get to meet **Evangeline, Jen & Jon Marc's** daughter who was 15 months by then. She is a lovely placid little girl, not too shy when she saw us and smiles broadly even when not feeling too well on occasion. **Bryan & Tiffany's** little **Charlize** weighed in at 7lb 10 oz on December 5th. A lovely little sister for **Catalina** who is almost 3! **Tanja** worked on for another 4 weeks and with **Iain** welcomed a 6lb 11 oz **Alyna** in to the world on January 5th. **Shayna** who is already 3 is quite excited to have a sister! It is a privilege to grandparent these five special blessings and we certainly appreciated the time we had with them all.

Allyn, gave his bedroom at home to a friend who needed to stay for a while and moved in with us, which was an extra blessing, as we got to spend a lot more time with him than previously expected. This semester he has been promoted to Assistant Director of Introductory Communications, meaning he is responsible for the day to day help needed by the 16 instructors in the program, while still teaching his own classes. We were often told of the influence he has had on the lives of numerous people and the mentoring he does for so many lads. He enjoys it all very much but needs guidance for his future and we ask you to pray with us that the Lord will clarify the next step for him. We appreciate so much that they had these years together while in the US to strengthen each other, and although we miss them, it is great to see how the Lord is using them and we look forward to times together.

During our time, there were many whom we just **did not get a chance to see**, and we trust you understand we were there primarily to help out with family this time. **Tom and Cheryl Meador**, who had been missionaries in Greece for 20 years came with their son Matthew's family, halfway from NC to meet with us, and it was good to see them again. They returned home 4 years ago for Cheryl's health, which is still a matter of concern, but we were delighted to hear his ministry has expanded as he still sends out his literature, now not only to Greece, but to Greeks in America, Australia and further afield. Also we were treated to a couple of days in Williamsburg at New Year and to a special weekend in the Smoky Mountains of Tennessee over Wilma's birthday. These were great times where we relaxed, felt refreshed and were able to see a little more of the States.

Returning with Expectancy

On our return flight amidst snow flurries, we were thankful to have only a 2 hr delay. At one point, there was a strong smell of burning, which caused some nervousness amongst the passengers. David told the Jewish lady sitting across from him that if she needed to get ready for heaven, now was as good a time to pray as ever. It was later discovered that the stewardesses were doing something in the galley which caused the overpowering smell!!!



Missionary home used while in the United States



All five granddaughters from left to right: Charlize, Catalina, Evangeline, Shayna, Alyna.



Allyn teaching at Liberty University

We have already enjoyed the Lord's presence in the meetings we have had at home and David was privileged to attend one meeting where **Jacob Marshall at 105** was giving his testimony. Imagine how humbled David felt when Jacob's first words to him were *'I have just finished reading your Prayer letter.'*

On the way to one meeting David stopped to ask a R.C. man for directions. As he could not help, he directed David to some known Christians and it turned out to be a man who had played at our wedding. To meet after 32 years was no accident, and David was thrilled to have fellowship with him and his family over a cup of coffee. Later, David went back to let the R.C. man know how the Lord had used him to orchestrate this meeting and also to leave a Gospel tract. We trust it is a link in the chain and a seed on fertile ground!

Regarding the Future

At the moment we are using a missionary house belonging to the Assemblies and are really enjoying another lovely home, made available to us by Dennis & Margaret Graham, who amid their own busy schedules find time to do this important service for their missionaries. (We are getting so spoiled, folks think we won't want to go back!) We look forward to seeing as many as possible while we are here and a list of the upcoming meetings is attached.

March

Sun 1st Derrycrew Mission Hall (38334642) at 7.30 pm
Wed 4th Glengormley Baptist (90842631) 8pm
Sat 7th Treetops Craigavon
Sun 8th Boteer Mission 92682374 7pm
Scotland 12-17th
12th-16th Fort William (leaving on 16th am)
16th-17th Edinburgh (leaving 17th pm)
Wed 18th Beeches Evangelical, Great Barr at 7.30pm
Thurs 19th visit with Nicholds, Coleshill
Thurs 19th Kings Heath Evangelical 7.45pm
Sun 22nd Bridgnorth Peoples church am
Sun 22nd Evesham (pm)

Replacing the Problem

When we left GB, our motorhome was sent to have the gas pipes renewed by Alister Hewitt in Portadown. However, when testing the finished work, he realised that the original gas tank was allowing liquid propane instead of vaporised propane to enter the system, which is what caused the Mar 08 fire in the vehicle. This vehicle has been looked at by so many 'experts' looking for the problem, but we are delighted that Alister as a professional got to the bottom of the problem and the tank will be replaced. It was a little hassle to get sorted with wheels while the van is being fixed but now Alister has provided us with a car for the purpose. We need to do the MOT etc and replenish our trailer with medical and other supplies before our return.

We hear good news of **Bitola** and esp the work **Olive** has become involved in with the ladies and the children. In the last letter we told you **Ethan & Jan** had returned for family reasons and Jan's mother went to be with the Lord in December. They were so glad to have been able to spend these months with her and now to be with her father for this time, before returning to Bitola on the 11th March. We look forward to getting back with all of them.

Retracing the Steps

The tour coming to Greece in April is full and **Thomas Jennings**, leader of MET, who is to share with David the Bible teaching would appreciate concentrated, believing prayer for his health at this time. The tour group will have three nights in a hotel near Thessaloniki, during which time they will visit **Thessaloniki** and worship with believers there. **Philippi, Amfissa and Neapolis** are also on the agenda during these days. Following a visit to **Berea and Vergina**, they will come to our home and spend the night in our locality. The next morning we journey to Athens taking time off to see the great scenery of **Meteora** etc and stay 3 nights in a hotel between Athens and Corinth. From there we will tour **Athens, Corinth, Delphi** and various other sites, before flying out on Sat 18th April from Athens. We trust not only that the people will be refreshed as they walk where Paul walked, but that they will have an insight into the spiritual needs of the Greek peoples and remember the work in prayer.



Olive back in Bitola

Restoring the Building

The day we arrive back to Sevasti from Athens, we have a **team of plasterers** coming to do the inside work on the meetings room and the downstairs bedrooms. Praise the Lord! That will be tremendous help to us and allow us to better utilize the house for the furtherance of the Gospel in our area. Please pray with us that these plans will work out according to His perfect will.

Reminders for Prayer

American missionaries have recently been asked to leave Greece, leaving gaps which need to be filled in the work.

- For ongoing results from the **calendar** outreach
- Assemblies in **Bitola, Gevgelija** and **Skopje** as they look at how best to spread the Gospel
- **Verena** (Switzerland) is recovering well from her knee replacement but the arsonists in her area are still at work
- **David's mother** is well settled in the nursing home and cheers up the other ladies around her.
- **Wilma's grandmother** is 99 years old this month and apart from being a little hard of hearing, copes well in her own home with help from Wilma's mother, uncle and aunt.
- Pray for the **travels** we have to make at this time of year. We are so conscious of His hand of protection on us through so many years.

Remembering with Gratitude

Many sincere thanks to all who sent us **Christmas/New Year greetings** either in card or electronic form. We were delighted to receive each one and blessed that you remember us so faithfully. This year started out tough for many of our friends, either as a result of the economic crisis or health problems, causing us to be even more grateful for your continued prayers and support. As we think on this year ahead, and realise the fall of the pound against the euro, we are reminded that the 'cattle on a thousand hills are His' and He is the same 'Yesterday, Today and Forever', therefore nothing takes Him by surprise and He knows no economic crisis!!

Your servants in Christ,

David & Wilma Lyttle

Contact & Support

David & Wilma Lyttle,

T0 (Box) 21, GR-60100, Katerini, Pieria, Greece
E-mail: mizpahmail@aol.com, lyttle@otenet.gr
Tel: ++ 30 23510-71124

This prayer letter is sent out by :

Mr & Mrs Charles McCluskey,
7 Parklands, Magheralin,
Co. Armagh, BT67 0SP
Tel: 028 92611796

Gifts for support should be sent to:

Mizpah Outreach
c/o Mrs. Ella Coffey
2 Tullynacree Rd, Annacloy,
Downpatrick, BT30 9AH
Tel: 028 44831165

This Prayer Letter is sent out by:

Iain & Tanja Lyttle
206 Twin Oak Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24502
Tel: (434) 832-2008

Gifts may be sent to:

Stephen Hudson
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.*

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