



Dear Praying Friend,

Amazing, here we are writing the final letter of 2013! So much has happened and we just don't have enough space or time to tell it all, but it has been very busy, interesting, eventful and we know definitely worthwhile!!

Alongside **continual trips to FYROM**, David has been doing **weekly Bible Studies** for Mike in Thessaloniki, which were extended for a 7th week. Such a joy to teach people with a hunger to study God's Word! Simultaneously, the **youth and Elderly services** have continued to be good opportunities for sharing the Word!

In the **Market Stall outreach**, one lady asked for extra Gospel tracts and another man spoke of the joy of reading his copies! **Calendars**, with a daily message for 2014 are being wrapped and prepared now, with an enclosed **children's gospel booklet**, for distribution in mid Nov/Dec. This is an opportunity which gives us much joy as we see God's word being read daily in homes, firms, shops etc.

We have also been able to **provide clothing, school supplies** etc for gypsy camps, prisons, and many needy families in FYROM.

One 4* hotel owner, who deals specifically with disabled people, [mostly from Germany], giving his clients, physio, medical care and all other therapies necessary for their conditions, has gratefully accepted **2 special wheelchairs** to help in the work. He has New Testaments available for people to take and has promised to come to the local evangelical church next time David is preaching there, which because of their rota and David's busy program, looks like it will be April 2014.

Vasso, a lovely Christian lady, who because she became a Christian while in Germany where she spent her formative years as a believer, loves to read the Bible in German. However, in recent days, the print is too small for her to read, even with glasses. **Verena**, in Switzerland, helped immensely, by sending a large print Bible, which amazingly did reach us! We wish you could have seen this woman's happy expression as she began reading!!! Thank you Verena!

When Death comes calling...

Old **Johann [79]**, who had been so close to committing his life to the Lord, Passed away in Germany and was brought here for burial. It was very sad, that he seemed to lose interest, but since his passing we have visited and had good conversations with the family.

A friend, **Zakis**, lost his mum and although we only heard the news an hour before the funeral, David was able to drop all and be there! Following the service in the church, Zakis astounded the congregation by stopping the procession leaving the church to give David a big hug. At the meal after the burial, his **wife Effie and the kids** all joined David at the table. They have now moved to Athens for work reasons and we hope someone else will follow them up!

Hearing the Orthodox bells ring out that someone had passed on, both of us separately thought of the same lady **Stavroula**, whom we had visited often. Sure enough, David went to visit and this dear lady had died, [Evangelical turned Orthodox to marry Kristus]. We were booked to go to FYROM, but made an arrangement for the day after we got back. Imagine David's excitement to find out, that their **son-in-law Lazarus** had trusted the Lord last year, in Germany, and together they had 2½ hours witnessing to those in the home. **Kristos**, is still not saved although terrified of dying!

When Disasters are averted...

As David was working 4m high on the garage roof recently, a sudden gust of wind took a complete sheet of galvanised metal and missed his head by a hairsbreadth.

Allyn and 2 friends, narrowly escaped injury, when a huge branch of an oak tree, broke off and crashed into the truck they were entering.

An approaching, impatient driver, overtook a slower truck, on double white lines, at a dangerous curve, in our lane!!! Phew!!

Last weekend we had several **earth tremors** in our area, causing much property damage. We sustained a very large crack in 2 walls, with part of the building sinking 1cm or so. Many further smaller cracks appeared over the next couple of days and David, has just spent 4 days with a special filling and sealing solution taking care of that problem before rain, or snow would cause further damage!! Keep praying folks!!

There is a first time for everything! Recently, David was breathalysed! He was driving carefully and because that was so unlike a Greek, the police decided to check him out!! Don't worry folks it was clear!! But the question does have to be asked, 'Why is that the first time, he was lifted for careful driving?'

Our home continues to be the base for many visiting friends, missionaries, etc. We were surprised when people visiting with a larger group, supposed to call for coffee, decided to stay all day and make a BBQ etc mid-



Calendar
Distribution



Cracks in the Wall

afternoon. In the late evening, as they were about to invite another large group to join them for food, [and we already had guests and other commitments], we had to 'pull the plug!' Not easy but necessary!

A couple of **Austrian tourists** visiting the local beach, were having car trouble. Since it was a public holiday not much could be done, but we spent time with them that evening and the next day David got our mechanic friend to repair it at his garage. It was a terrific opportunity to witness and we've been invited to visit them in Klagenfurt, Austria.

After taking 2 of the elderly folks from our village to buy a sofa, 3 weeks later, a man, from among a group of people, recognised David. It was the firm manager, and this led to another wonderful opportunity to share and with them all accepting literature. One man, **Kostas**, #1293 [#1&2 being our neighbours,] is especially interested in the message!

The Situation in Greece always worsens after the tourist season is over, as people panic about how they will survive the winter. Jobs are scarce, and those who do have work are expected to work for a top wage of 500 euros monthly, in an attempt to pay back some of the Greek debt. Naturally, no one wants to work hard for so little, so few people do their job well. But, should you give up your job, there is a line of people waiting to take it, as any money is better than no money! To date, **5,000 Greek men** are said to have committed suicide to ensure their families are given the 300 euros, provided by the government, for fatherless children.

We learn to live with sudden and sporadic strikes/riots, when police close down the affected areas. This happened recently meaning our bible study was cancelled, not because we could not have gotten in, but the city people were told not to leave their homes for their own safety.

When Doors swing open.....

While visiting another Kostas, David got into conversation with **Kristodoulos** ['Servant of Christ'], **an orthodox monk**. After being told why we were in Greece, he said, 'You need to become Orthodox!' To which David replied, 'No chance! I have enough problems!' That broke the ice, got a smile, and made way for a good discussion about Jesus' actual teaching!

David told him the important thing was a born-again experience and challenged him if that had ever happened. He told of the despair when his wife left him and how he had, had a definite experience with God, but felt he was called to a solitary life in a monastery. David explained to him, how after his own conversion, he knew the opposite was true, that we were called to share the good news with others. They hope to meet again!

Recently, we were visiting the **biblical town of Berea** [Acts17:10-12]. We found the old Jewish synagogue and the official guide, **Evie** waiting for a group to arrive. For the next 30 minutes she told us the history of the building standing on the site of the one in which Paul preached.

In 1943, during the Passover service, the Nazis barred the door/windows, trapping the Jews inside. After 3 days in the building with no facilities or food, they were transported for over 5 days in empty railway carriages to Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland. None of the captured Berean Jews returned!

On hearing David's testimony, Evie told us she understood what we were saying, as pastor Nikos of a small Free Apostolic in the Jewish area, allowed the visitors to the synagogue to use his church toilets, kitchen etc, and had a good relationship with the Jewish people! We were able to meet **Nikos & Paraskev** his wife, who were very excited about our interest!

As we were expecting a visit from our colleagues from Lukas Foundation, Holland, we arranged for a meeting with not only Nikos & Family, but also with Stavros from the Evangelical Church.

This resulted in several boxes of Hebrew N.T's being left in both locations to be taken away free by anyone who wishes. The City Bible has 100+ pages inside explaining Jesus as the Messiah from O.T. Prophecy. Russian & Greek N.T's are being ordered and we praise the Lord for this open opportunity!

Please pray for Evie, who is as yet unsaved, but says that apart from the official Jewish guide from Israel, we are the only people who have ever returned to visit her.

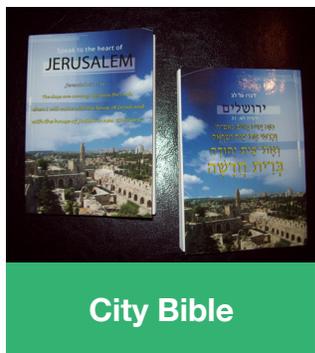
When Destinations are further.....

At least three times monthly in this last while, we have been in F.Y.R.O.Macedonia. The sense of God's presence in the meetings has been such a blessing, as various individuals have been touched and dealt with by the Spirit of God!

We visited **Bitola**, more frequently, while Olive was at home, Jovan was in Germany settling his daughter in College, and Alex also in Germany for visa purposes, leaving almost no leadership in the assembly. As well as taking the services, David has been trying to encourage Peter and Borche, relatively new believers, to get & pass on a Word from the Lord.

In one service, **Kira**, [80+] collapsed and Wilma was able to resuscitate him till the emergency services arrived. He is very emaciated and had not eaten for days, so was given some material help by the members there.

Although far from well herself, **Vera and her granddaughter**, covered the homes in their area with tracts recently, while Stanko continues to recover from his injuries. Wilma has been advising him about his diabetes!



In **Gevgelia**, the work continues on a big extension in the main shopping area, which is necessary due to steady expansion of the congregation. God is at work, although the devil is fighting back!!

Venci has recently had wonderful opportunities getting **God's Word into hospitals, hotels, casinos and even a prison**. One unpleasant experience, was when 1 hotel owner, who had been so positive one week, even asking to have Greek editions for their guests, spoke to 'some people' and turned totally negative, forcing them to remove every Bible from the premises.

For months, we had hoped to meet up with one particular lady! When attending a wedding, we even enquired of another lady, if she was the one we were looking for. No! Not her!

Later a lady joined us at our table and we had a good time of fellowship and were introduced to her family. Later, in another part of FYROM, we saw her picture and asked about her, only to find out she was the lady we had been hoping to meet up with. He gives us the desires of our hearts, even when we don't realise it!!!

When Descendants are blessed.....

We are very thankful, Allyn was given his new visa for continuing his work with WorldHelp without any problems at all. Recently, among other disaster areas, much of the focus has been on helping the Syrian Refugees through some of their partner missions. The situation is very bad, as 100,000's have died and 6,000,000 are refugees in other lands or displaced inside Syria.

Stalin said, 'One death is a tragedy, but a million deaths are merely a statistic!' This is often the case as our finite minds try to comprehend such huge numbers'

Calila fits in the Lyttle family well and we are thankful all the legalities are over. Bryan & Tiffany begin their efforts with Hope for the Homestead [shoebox gifts for needy people in Lynchburg area].

Iain is busy with events taking place in the church in the next months, when many come along, who don't normally attend services!

Jennifer, now has a nursing job, which they appreciate and is enjoying this new experience!

Thank you for praying for our family!!!

When Deputation is underway.....

Yes, it soon will be that time again! Due to illness, fatigue and various other reasons, team plans regarding work at the centre in 2013, have been postponed till April 2014. This means that our deputation must be completed in good time for their arrival.

Now, it is a little bit clearer, when we can be in your area, please book a meeting or visit with Charles as soon as possible, that we can organise our calendar and that we don't miss seeing you!

...in all these situations, we know you are praying, and are always extremely thankful for the love, prayer and support of each one!

May we take this opportunity to wish you a very blessed and peaceful Christmas time and a special year ahead, walking in the love of the Lord, while waiting for His Coming!!

David & Wilma

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