



Dimitra



Andrew Brunson



Jewish Visitors



Team visiting
refugees

Dear Praying Friends,

This is our first letter of 2020 and we take the opportunity to thank you all for your continued prayer and support through, not just another one year, but through a decade, and for some of you through many decades!!! We are conscious every day of not being able to continue without your backing in so many ways, but especially in the place of prayer.

Now to recap:

The last few months before leaving Greece were busy with many highlights, one of which was baptizing **Dimitra, a 16-year-old believer**, in the sea, close to our home. David was assisted by Dimitra's dad on this special day surrounded by her friends and family.

We also heard that Ula [Polish believing friend, who was in the car accident in Greece], has been asked to speak on Polish TV about her experiences and how God undertook for them. What an amazing opportunity!

We had a **3-day Balkan Prayer conference** [held this time in Thessaloniki], emphasizing repentance, forgiveness and healing across nations, which have known so much heartache over past years. While there, we had opportunity to listen to and speak with Andrew Brunson [US], who had spent 2 years [2016-18] in a Turkish jail, because of his Christian faith. He spoke so honestly of how he had been broken and restored to the certainty that God had orchestrated the whole experience to further His Kingdom in this land.

Turkey has increasingly renounced any kind of positive response regarding Christianity, actively persecuting and condemning Christians, encouraging other countries to do the same, while also leading a highly critical and antagonistic political war on Israel and the Jews. Please pray for Turkey that God's Will may be done, and that 1,000's will come to know Christ as Savior in the days ahead!

Opportunities for working among the Jewish visitors in Berea continue. One family, comprising of 4 couples, joined us for a light lunch, following our own service. This gave further opportunity to witness and afterwards they told us that visit was the highlight of their tour. Each couple gladly took a New Testament back to Israel with them. An Orthodox Jewish couple who only read the Pentateuch [first 5 books of OT], had a long conversation about Jesus and despite not agreeing with us, they did reiterate three times 'how good it was to meet' and even invited us to visit them in Israel.

The Refugee situation continues to be a source of worry. The islands are immensely overcrowded and winter is especially hard. The mainland has been evicting some refugees, who have spent a long time in camp and expecting them to cater for their own needs. Those with nothing else can go to large tented places set up by UN, but with no care in place. These are cold, difficult places to live in but many have no other choice.

One diabetic refugee, who had spent many weeks and months without insulin on his journey overland from Syria, developed a severe circulation problem in his legs. Already his toes were black and infected, with one toe becoming gangrenous. Every attempt to be seen by a surgeon was going to cost money which he just didn't have. But, as time is of the essence to prevent the loss of his whole limb, we covered the cost of the surgeon to speed things up and hopefully save his entire leg. This is a real problem for people with long term debilitating illnesses, who go long periods without medication on their journey, and even in Greece, can't afford to buy the needed medicine to ease their symptoms.

Please pray for the numbers of Arabic & Farsi refugees who visit our services, some are being converted and baptized, up and down the length of Greece, despite pressure from fanatical Muslims, living close by. Many refugees are frustrated and volatile since the process to get them settled is sometimes taking years. Others have been given interviews and refused permission to stay, so are appealing these decisions, delaying the process even longer.

Visiting in the Berean camps is always a great opportunity and as well as being offered coffee after coffee, it is great to converse with the people face to face. One young lady asked for prayer as she has been married 2 years and is still childless which is a huge shame for them. We also got a call from the hospital to bring some folks back to the camp and also delivered a lady who had just lost her baby to a centre she is living in close by Berea. You can imagine that there are many sicknesses and illnesses among the people at this time and many visits to Drs and hospitals are needed. Recently new building were built to accommodate the extra people as the camp has doubled in size. Meantime, extra people are being accommodated in hotels which are empty over the winter period. In the 'hotels,' some of the Greek staff have been willing to accept Gospel literature. This is so much better than those who are either in tents or even without tents, but with plastic sheeting to protect them from the elements.



N. Macedonian Calendars

These are momentous difficult days and we need to be alert to the opportunities God is giving us!

We were delighted to be able to deliver thousands of **calendars throughout Northern Macedonia**, to be distributed to various churches and individuals, allowing them to give them personally to their neighbors, friends and colleagues over the Christmas period. We trust there will be fruit from the reading of God's word in so many homes throughout this land.



Youth helping with calendar outreach

Again this year, **the young folks from Katerini** came to do the wrapping of the **Greek calendars**. We had a great day of fellowship together and are so grateful for the amount of time and effort it saves us, as well as, the nice way we present the calendars to the various people.

In addition to Northern Macedonian and Greek calendars, we provide calendars in Arabic & Farsi for the refugees, and also Albanian and Romanian editions for some of our contacts. One contact, who had asked for New Testaments for Romanians, refused to take calendars instead, when suddenly a person David had just been introduced to, asked if he could have them. It turned out he was preaching later that day in a prison with a good number of Romanian prisoners. He was delighted at the Lord's provision of the calendars in book form to be able to give them, and so were we!!



Refugees face ongoing hardship

We have now distributed all the contents of two containers, clothing, wheelchairs, medicines, shoes, bedding etc to the camps, to Lesbos and to the care centres in Thessaloniki. **We have nothing left to give and the needs are still enormous**. Bad storms and heavy rains before Christmas, left 10,000 homeless on Lesbos alone. Our last load of clothing arrived just on time to help with that need, as so many were left with no possessions.

An earthquake [6.4] ripped through Albania leaving several dead and whole towns needing help to rescue people from damaged buildings. Greece sent teams to help as did Italy and some other surrounding countries. The local believers were helping and using the opportunity to tell others about Christ.

Travelling home, we had lovely weather all the way and no major problems, except a burst water boiler in the camper. We travelled all the way to Scotland and are thankful for journeying mercies. We spent Christmas with all the family and Allyn, who flew over to join us for 2 weeks at a beautiful home in **Portpatrick**, which Nora [Wilma's sister] and Davy made possible. It was a lovely time and not far at all for us to take the Ferry to Ireland for New Year.



Portpatrick, Scotland

We arrived safely in N.I. and are so grateful once again to be allowed to live in the little apartment here. We don't take it for granted, as there are many missionaries home at this time needing accommodation. Also many thanks to Stephen Brownlee who has **loaned us a great car** for the time we are in N. Ireland. **Allyn** left to go home again on the 5th, but it made things extra special for us to have him here for Christmas, New Year and David's birthday, as well as all the days in between!!! He actually was working on various project while he was here, dealing with different situations, as they developed in the world, and getting involved as necessary!!!

Jon Marc was delighted recently when a young man came to the Lord in his Bible study and doubly pleased and thankful when this man's wife made the same decision two or three weeks later. **Ashley** has been to Nicaragua attending the graduation of one of the girls she helped rescue some years ago.

Iain and Tanja and family are enjoying the addition of Skye, and we look forward to seeing them all when we travel to Austria in March [arranged by our boys and Wilma's family as a surprise gift]!!! This was a huge delight for us at Christmas, although I think it is only now sinking in!!!

Bryan's family recently welcomed 2 new puppy's into their home, as if they don't have enough beings in the house. But they are very cute at this age, and the children love having them.

David's brother **Derek's partner Leanne**, passed away in late November, after a long illness. We extend our deepest sympathies to all the family circle.

Recently, we attended the funeral of the great grandson of a very faithful prayer partner of ours, who will soon be 90 years old. Imagine our surprise when we got to the funeral and realized that we knew the paternal side of the family very well too. The grandfather of the victim had been called to the missionfield, after being challenged at a meeting in the Moira convention, when David was preaching many years ago. The families gain some comfort from knowing that Ethan accepted Jesus as his Savior a week before he died..

Please note: If you don't receive our prayer letter by post or email any time, you can always look on our website at **www.mizpahoutreach.org** for the latest one or even to read some backdated copies.

Now the deputation has started and we are enjoying meeting people again, who we know have prayed faithfully for us. Also great to see new faces or even to be in new venues, and to share the burden with others. Again many of our prayer partners have gone home this year and while this is a huge joy for them, we do miss their prayers



Grandkids

and support. Who will fill the gap, these folks have left behind? If you want to see or hear us, please look at the list and come to one of the meetings, or call for a date if you want a meeting. You can either call Charles McCluskey or ourselves. David's number is: 07709594498. We look forward to seeing you and if you can't make a service, call to arrange a visit.

Points for Praise:

- Dimitra's Baptism
- Andrew Brunson's release and future ministry
- Safe travel home
- Meetings already booked

Points for Prayer

- Jewish visitor Outreach
- Responses to Calendar Outreach
- Refugee ministry - especially those with inadequate shelter, clothing, food, and medicines this winter
- Ethan's family as they cope with their devastating loss
- Our Deputation program

Yours for His sake,

David & Wilma

2020 MEETINGS LIST

JANUARY

Thurs 23rd Dungannon Meth Men's Meeting @ 7.30pm Parker Hall, - 07721420594
 Sat 25th Tansy Mission Hall @ 8.15pm David Elwood - 07802386286
 Sun 26th Bangor Ind Meth @ 11.30 am, Boris Baun - 07793745320
 Sun 26th Hulls Hill Elim @ 6.30p - Alister - 07591778794
 Mon 27th Bangor Ind Meth (ladies) @ 7.30pm - 02891469754
 Wed 29th Silverbirch Evangelical [Womens] Gwen - 07721913373

FEBRUARY

Sun 2nd Derrycrew Mission Hall @ 7.30pm Jim - 02838334642
 Mon 3rd Billy & Norma McAllister: 5 Eagra logther Road, BT61 8LA. @ 12.30pm
 Thurs 6th Edwin Poots House meeting
 Fri 7th House meeting Armagh, 8pm Brian - 07771778802

Sat 8th Jonathans induction - Ft. William Baptist
 Sun 9th Home from Scotland, Botear @ 7pm Margaret - 07881531193
 Mon 10th Mizpah Workers's meeting
 Tues 11th Connect class Lisnaskea Ind Meth [evening] - 07581879816
 Sat 15th Meet the Pastor: Brownlee's @ 5pm
 Sun 16th Transformation Church @ 11am, Nick - 07858522529
 Sun 16th Belfast DCF @ 7pm Jim - 02891822651
 Mon 17th Lurgan House meeting, David & Beth McKeown - 07803282299
 Sun 23rd The Well - Cookstown @ 6.30pm Stephen - 07762870257
 Sat 29th Tempo Coffee Bar @ 8pm, Gary - 07843250881

MARCH

5 - 12th Austria
 Thurs 26th Ballywillwill Ladies Meeting @ 8pm - 07879664848

Fri 27th Sail/drive to England
 Sun 29th Maxwell Hall, South Shields, NE334AG, @ 6pm. Joyce - 07939164888

APRIL

Sun 5th Kings Heath church @ 10.30 am
 Wed 8th Beeches Evangelical @ 10.30 am - 01216408656
 10 - 13th Easter - available
 Sun 19th Bridgenorth Evangelical church @ 10.30 Paul - 01746 765480
 Wed 22nd Travel to Scotland
 Thurs 23rd Fort William Baptist Friendship Hour [afternoon]

MAY

Sun 3rd Drumchapel UF, Glasgow Scotland
In Scotland as needed until latest May 20th

Contact & Support

David & Wilma Lyttle

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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: