mizpahoutreach

Prayer Letter #151 August/September 2022



Dear Prayer Partners, family & friends,

Thank you for your love, prayers and concern for us, and esp. for Bryan at this time. Since our last letter, we have had a blessed 3 months working in Greece, having teams to help, travelling home via England and Scotland, taking meetings for the first time since 2019 because of Covid restrictions, coming to Northern Ireland, catching Covid, followed by a 2 week mission in Monaghan. Whirlwind, but amazing to see God's Hand at work in so many ways!

To Recap:

It was lovely to be able to be longer in Greece and to be able to go to churches, to take part in services and to be released from many of the restrictions. We did still have to wear masks in areas where there were many people crowding etc, but much less restrictive than in previous times.

The N. I. teams were incredible and worked very hard despite the unexpected over 30 degree temperatures, which are not normal for May. The day before the team arrived, the gravel road beside the house and camp had been levelled and then the mayor arrived with a 'cherry picker' and re-positioned the camp lights. God's timing is impeccable!

The team built a retaining wall down between the cabins, preventing soil being washed down by rain to the lower end of the camp. Shower cabins and toilets were worked on and some of these even painted.

Rooves were repaired and finished off and gutter spoutings are now on all buildings. Cement pathways were made and now we have solar units for hot water installed. Each day we had blessed times of fellowship and prayer for those needing it and for missionaries all over the world! And throughout the time the craic was mighty!!!

Our friend **Christina's**, [holder of the keys], **mother** fell and broke her hip, leading to an infection getting in and multiple hospital stays till it was sorted. David, determined to visit, despite covid restrictions, was challenged by 3 different groups of security before he even reached the hospital, but they still let him in. Inside, he had to pay for a covid test to the bursar, who insisted David must have been given a 'special dispensation'. When he met Evniki, she cried at seeing her unexpected visitor. They were able to read and pray together and it has been wonderful to see how she is softening in recent years, but she needs prayer for her health and her salvation!!!

We had many opportunities for ministry in churches and we look forward to being back again very soon. Our Greek national team continue to provide for essential travel needs and medical help for many refugees in the camps. They also are being used to reach out to the Jewish tourists who visit the Berean synagogue.

Due to the 90-day Brexit ruling, we had to be out of Europe inside that time, but we re-arranged some meetings in England and Scotland, which we had to be cancel in 2019 when covid struck, and this was a good opportunity to see everyone again.

Heading for the ferry at Igoumenitsa, we were late leaving and had to break the land speed record to meet the deadline. Because of the final rush, David forgot his phone and the sat nav, so that wasn't fun for him. At the docks, we had a hilarious few minutes as the lady kept asking where our other passenger was. We told her it was only us two, but she insisted we arrived with another, so where was he? When we finally got a name from her it was Mr Hudson Taylor, and we knew he certainly wasn't travelling with us!!! She had gotten confused, as our trailer was a Hudson Trailer and it was with us, coming home to be refilled!! No harm done, and we all had a good laugh. Reaching Switzerland, we arranged for our friend Verena to be ready to meet us. Allyn had paid for us to take her out for a meal and as you can see, she thoroughly enjoyed it and so did we!

Our clutch in the van was giving us problems and we found it still worked best in higher gears, meaning we kept driving and landed at Calais about 2 days before we were due to be there. There was a ferry had just arrived in and we were told that if we paid the exorbitant fee of 10 euros we could change our ticket. This was a great answer to prayer, as we were due to begin meetings immediately that first weekend and this allowed us a day to find a mechanic, who could fix our van.

We found a workshop in Birmingham and had wonderful times of witnessing to the workers. The boss got his



Work Team



Verena



Mechanic

father to cook us an Iranian breakfast, which was delicious, and they put in our new clutch and pressure plate immediately.

The **meetings in the Birmingham area** were very blessed and it was such a joy to see everyone after so long. We never cease to be grateful for the prayers and support of these dear folks. We were also in Bridgenorth and were also able to leave our trailer there, making parking etc a bit easier while we visited our other contacts. Again, it was a real blessing to be there and meet up with those who so faithfully pray!!!

As a **Father's day surprise**, our family had arranged a special surprise which included a fascinating visit to the 'Black Country Museum' and ended in a brilliant restaurant called De la Vies, where we got talking to the boss, also an Iranian. He was very interested in everything we had to say and even invited us to come and park our vehicle in his yard if we ever need a parking place again.

In Scotland we had such precious times with prayer partners and friends! Family time in Edinburgh, a visit to Balintore, ending with a terrific BBQ in Fort William, all made our trip memorable. We had the opportunity to pray for many who had health issues and were able to give Gospel tracts away in various places, to those who were interested.

Almost immediately, on arriving **back in NI**, we commenced our meetings. We got to attend the lovely wedding of **Jo & James**. Jo is the daughter of Alan & Linda Taggart who send out our prayer letter and take your bookings for meetings, and we wish them God's richest blessing as they begin married life! We also had the joy of dedicating two little relatives to the Lord. We have attended a few funerals of friends and relatives of friends. One of these was our chairman **Martin Bell's, brother** Jim, and we assure Martin and Sharon of our thoughts and prayers at this time. We were privileged to attend the memorial service for **Bob McAllister**, a great missionary statesman, who with his wife Alma was well-known in Northern Ireland and blazed a trail for Christ across the Congo.

David began feeling a bit under the weather with flu-like symptoms, but he tested negative for covid. He remained like this for a couple of days until Wilma took it as well. When she tested it was immediately positive, and when we retested David, he had a positive reaction. That was us for the next 10 days! We had to cancel a few meetings and had a bit of problem with coughing and high fever, but probably the tiredness it leaves, was the worst symptom we had. We are thankful to have come through it so well, considering David's chest problems following his mice incident.

All this time, we were planning for the **outreach in Monaghan** and eventually David was fit to go for 1 week's visitation on the doors prior to the mission starting. The Gospel packs, all provided by a friend, contained the Gospel of John, a testimony CD, and some booklets. They had such a wonderful reception everywhere. Great conversations on the doors and only 3 refusals in 3 weeks!! Quite amazing!

The **Drive-In Mission** started officially on July 31st for 2 weeks. Every meeting was bathed in prayer and the sense of God's presence was clearly felt, giving great liberty for preaching. Both Stephen Bartley and John Weir who also preached felt the same! Many believers were challenged, and one lady, in particular, was liberated from the trappings of a cult, and became a blessing to many others. Visitation continued throughout the mission, giving opportunity to pray with many people.

- 1. Megan, heavily pregnant, delivered her beautiful baby girl after 2 hours of labour.
- 2. Ross, who fractured his leg and shoulder came at least 4 times to the mission
- 3. Theresa, who lost her daughter and husband, allowed prayer to be made for her and listened as Christ's sacrifice was explained.
- 4. Sometimes so many gathered around to listen and ask questions, it was like an open air meeting but absolutely no antagonism, Praise the Lord!

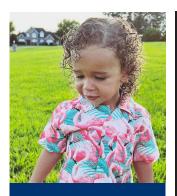
The mission is over now, but we are trusting the Spirit of God will continue working in hearts and lives, when the human voice is silent!



Mission



David Preaching



Isaiah



Kitchen Units

Bryan is pressing on with his chemo, 2 days, every 2 weeks for 6 months and has been amazingly courageous, although many times in pain and discomfort from the side effects. He is so glad not to have nausea and sickness as a symptom, even though he is almost half way through, and apart from extreme tiredness, he is so very, very conscious of and thankful for people praying for him daily. His white cell count went down too low a couple of weeks ago, leaving him very vulnerable to infection, so he is no longer allowed to travel. He was disappointed, but hopes to visit here in March 2023, and we feel much happier, as he should be feeling much better to enjoy the trip! Bryan has been witnessing to another man who has the same sickness, albeit a much older man, who is more open to listen than he was before he was sick. Please continue to pray that the Lord would be glorified even through this time of sickness!

Recently, his brothers and Shayna [lain's daughter], tiled Bryan's basement, so that the children would have a place to play. We are immensely grateful for all they are doing to help at this time!

Jon Marc & Ash had the joy of finally finishing the adoption process for Isaiah Louis Lyttle, who long ago endeared himself to each one of the family!!!

We have a few more services in the area, but our date for leaving is 5th September. We also have teams arriving in Greece from 18th September till October 7th. Just a heads up, we will be taking meetings Lord Willing in February and some of March 2023 in NI, and April in Eng/Scot. Please contact Taggarts if you want a booking, as some dates are already taken.

We have the kitchen units, doors and fittings as well as most electrical equipment, but we do need someone who is handy at putting it all together. If you would be interested in being part of a work team, arriving for any part of that time, please talk to Norman McCready on 07882 120325. We would be very grateful for every help we can get. We can't promise luxury, but we do promise fun, food and fellowship, as well as hard work!!!

Thank you for your prayers and support through this challenging time. We are thoroughly blessed and thankful for every prayer warrior. May God richly bless each one.

Firmly held in His Love.

David & IDilma

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