

Look on the Fields

April 2023

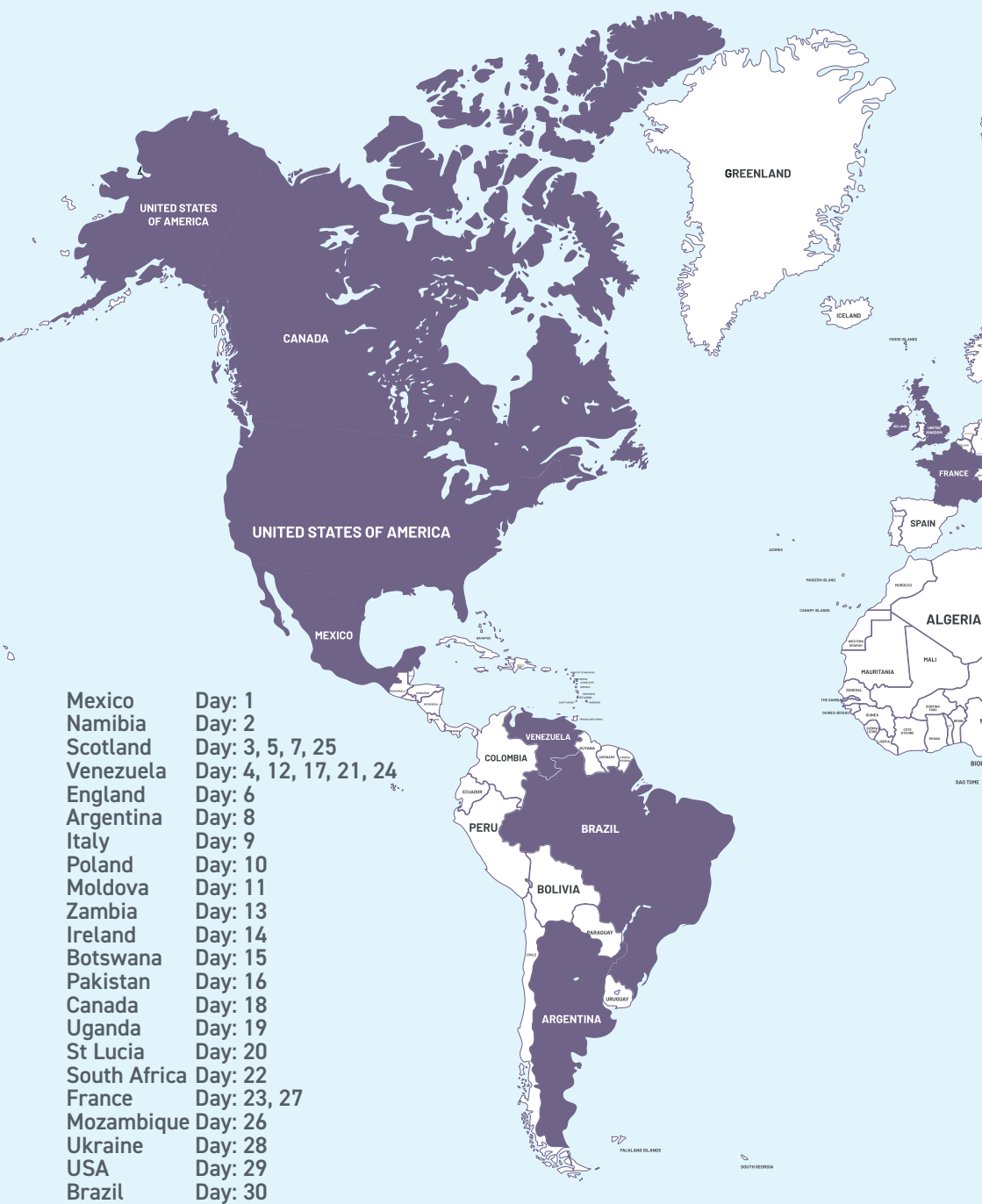


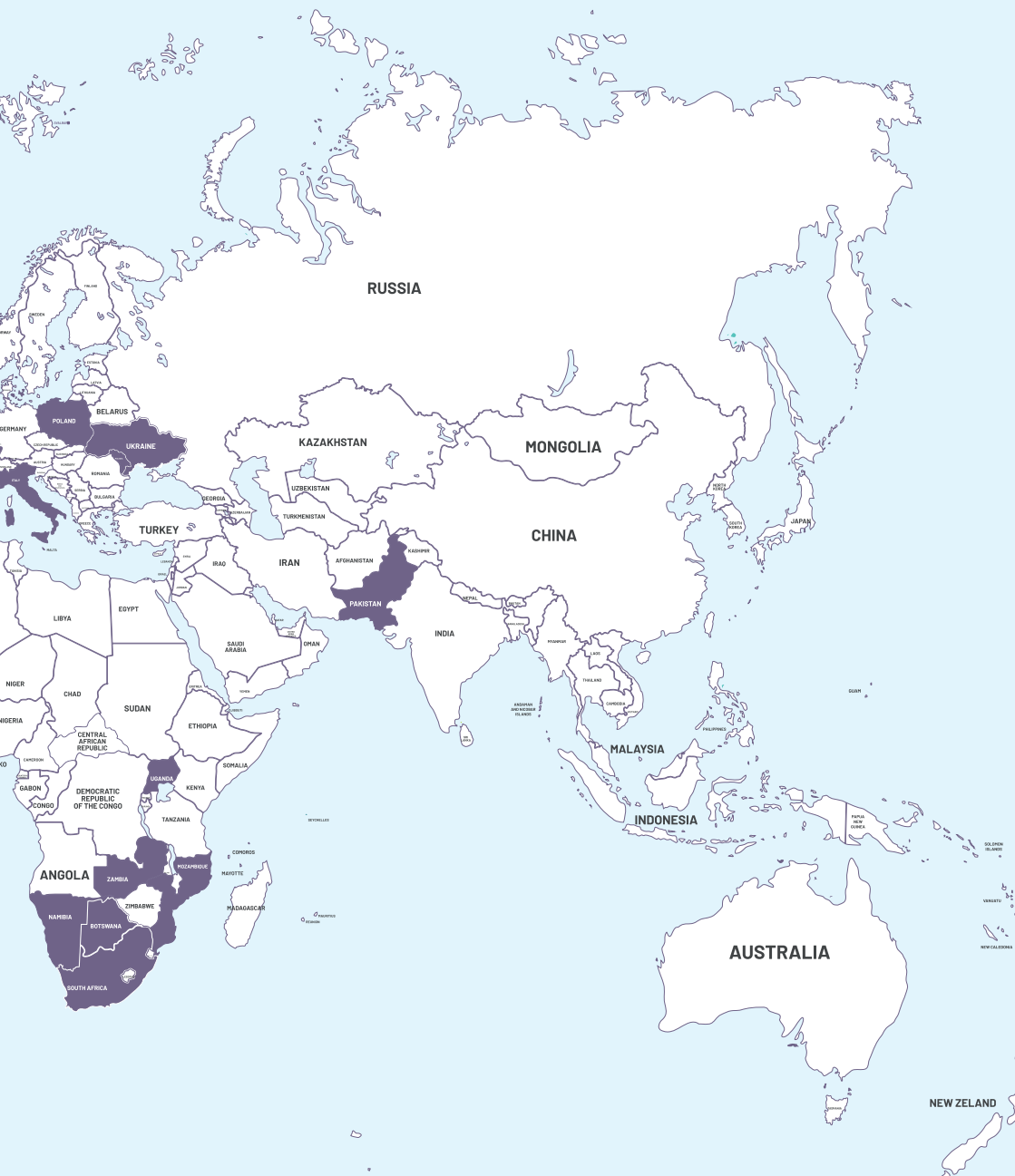
ITEMS FOR PRAYER AND PRAISE
With Daily Scripture Readings



**LORD'S
WORK TRUST**
STRIVING TOGETHER FOR THE GOSPEL

'Go into all the world and preach the gospel' Mark 16:15





Saturday 1st

1 Sam 28-31

MEXICO



Xalapa

The little assembly here in the city of Xalapa has been weakened numerically but we trust has grown stronger spiritually in the midst of difficult days. With seemingly impenetrable darkness all around, we bless the God of heaven that the light of the glorious Gospel can still blaze brightly. It's the perfect tonic for the soul! Fellow worker Samuel Chesney along with local brethren are helping out in a present series of Gospel meetings here in the hall. At least ten people have attended for the first time, with some continuing to show a good interest. The neighbours which live in the vicinity of the hall have shown little to no interest down through the years, but every Gospel series means we visit the homes once again with invitations whilst enjoying many encouraging conversations about the Bible. Pray for God's needed help and desired blessing. Isidro, a 62-year-old man has been coming regularly ever since he overheard us in open-air work a few weeks back. He has expressed his need to be saved. Pray for Leticia and her grandson Santiago who are also attending well.



Yesterday we visited a professing Christian couple in their home on the opposite side of this city of 500,000 souls. After receiving an invitation to visit the home of this 'Christian pastor' and his wife, we prepared for the worse and hoped for the best! It turned out to be an incredibly encouraging two hours spent around God's Word as we explained the doctrine and duty of believers in this dispensation. Before leaving we were asked when we could return to continue teaching them truths that they'd never heard before. Please pray that against what was seemingly unsurpassable odds, this couple will see the truth of gathering wholly and solely unto the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Towards the end of next month, we plan to visit the city of Merida in the state of Yucatan. Located some 13 1/2hrs drive south-east from our home here in Xalapa, the widow of our dearly departed fellow worker Anderson Hernandez, Mariu lives there with her two

children. After spending some time helping in the work in Merida and the nearby coastal city of Progreso last year, we returned to the cooler mountain air of Xalapa with a now ever burning desire to dedicate the coming years of our lives rendering further service in that needy part of the great vineyard. We know that the work is the Lord's; we His servants must go wherever His hand guides. We cry the words of King Asa as he too faced an impossible task: "Lord, it is nothing with Thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O Lord our God; for we rest on Thee, and in Thy name we go against this multitude..." (2 Chronicles 14v11).

C. 2011

TIMOTHY & JENNA STEVENSON

28/2/23

Sunday 2nd

NAMIBIA



2 Sam 1-3

Swakopmund

We have made the trek from Manyinga, Zambia to Swakopmund, Namibia. The 1,975km journey did not go as smoothly as we would have liked, especially given the poor road conditions in Zambia, including deep mud and many trees down. On the Namibia side we ran into car trouble with the regulator in the alternator going mid trip. We found ourselves on the side of the road in the middle of nowhere between Rundu and Grootfontein with no power to turn over the engine.

In all the Lord has been gracious and very merciful to us. We arrived at Swakopmund on the 27th, as planned, and will be going door to door with texts and calendars for the next two weeks. We made some contacts here last year and have found the locals very receptive to the gospel. From March 13th until the 24th we will be joining the outreach in Windhoek, the capital city of Namibia. Many from different parts of the world will be coming to take part in this effort. We have seen a good response and are able to speak the gospel in schools, along with visiting the nearby hospitals. On our way back home to Zambia we would like to visit two towns that we have not been to before. These towns are located far in the north, very near the Angolan border. We have printed texts for this area in Oshikwanyama and Oshinndonga. Please pray for this ongoing effort in the gospel as well as the possibility that we, as a family, may be able to move here and work in a full-time capacity instead of just visiting for a few weeks of the year.



C. 2021 (USA)

STEVEN & STEPHANNIE ANDERSON

21/2/23

Monday 3rd

SCOTLAND



2 Sam 4-7

Lanarkshire

I have just returned from 10 days in Bangalore, India. I had previously visited in 2018 to spend some time in one school. However, the Lord opened up the way to visit 6 schools in the Bangalore area on this occasion. These are all Christian schools, however 80% of the pupils are Hindu or Muslim. They are all very large, with the biggest having 2400 children at the school assembly!



Each day I was able to have an assembly at a different school then classes for the remainder of the day. The response, behaviour and attention of the children was great. I was also able to spend time in a school established for children of quarry workers. These are very poor people and education is really the only hope of escaping a life of squalor and working in horrific conditions. The local believers are doing a remarkable work in this locality.

Prior to India I was able to return to Shetland in January. It was great to be back, and to have so many open doors in the schools is a real answer to prayer. We were able to visit 14 schools throughout the week and had very good feedback and an invitation to return. The kids club at Brae was not the biggest, but the kids seemed to enjoy it and listened well.

It was unfortunate the weather took a turn for the worse and I had to leave early, however these things are out of our hands.

The regular school work is extremely busy, with classes and assemblies each day. We have been able to establish a rota of class RME teaching in many of the local schools, and this allows me to be able to build up the Bible knowledge of the youngsters. It does take up a fair bit of time and we can have up to eight, 45 minute classes a day, so pretty intense.

Next month sees many Easter school opportunities and also Work Book Day classes. I have a one-hour workshop on the Bible which gives the history and relevance of the scriptures, followed by a writing exercise with quills and ink; you can imagine the mess! This year I will be in 14 classes with this lesson.



Many schools have asked to have my Easter workshop in their upper school. This involves 3 sessions on the Crucifixion of Christ followed by an inter-school quiz to test their knowledge and promote some healthy rivalry!

God willing, I will be in Faskally for a young folks teaching weekend then straight to Wick for a week of school and kids clubs. The Lord has opened many doors in Caithness, with 10 schools booked in. One of these schools have asked for a Monday morning assembly followed by 8 classes!

Locally in Plains we have just commenced our monthly community lunch. The first one was smaller than I had hoped, however we're sure it will build up. Our Mother's Day tea is looking to be a popular event with over 40 booked to come along so far. These events work well in the community and allow important Gospel openings.

Please keep on praying that these opportunities will remain open to us. There are a great number of young people hearing and learning about God's word.

Tuesday 4th

VENEZUELA



2 Sam 8-11

Tucupita

At the beginning of October last year we began a series of gospel meetings in the hall here in Tucupita which continued for 6 weeks. I was glad to be able to share the meetings with David Perez who has come from San Carlos to reside here with his wife. Both have been a big help in all the gospel activities. Many new contacts were made in other areas of the city where we pray that soon there may be open doors for the preaching of the gospel. After the meetings had finished, a middle-aged man called Jenito, who had attended every night, told me that he had finally understood that "there was one who had paid everything for him", and since then, we have seen the fruit of salvation in his life.

Following that, we began Bible Readings for two weeks in 1st Corinthians, and then a week of ministry, with the much appreciated help of Mr Noel McKeown. These meetings finished with the baptism of five believers. Three are of one family, another young man called Gabriel, and my eldest son Matthew.

Having felt that the Lord was indicating that the time had come for the establishment of the assembly, we decided to have a day of ministry on the 10th of December and then on the 11th, for the first time 24 of us sat down to remember the Lord in the breaking of bread. We joyfully acknowledge His mercy and grace in planting this testimony for HIS GLORY in this capital city of Delta Amacuro. Up till now it was the only state in Venezuela where there was no assembly established. Please continue remembering this new assembly in your prayers.



At the end of January, we began gospel meetings in Janokosebe, a community near Tucupita where mostly indigenous people live. The meetings are being held in the yard of a dear brother called Don Guillermo, who lost his aged wife at the beginning of the year. Several of his daughters, grandchildren and a son are attending and listening well, in addition to a good number of his neighbours. Please pray that the Lord may visit us in salvation.

The children's work continues in the 4 places where we have a Bible Class every week. Then another one has just begun in another suburb of the city. The brethren and sisters are faithful in helping in each one of these gospel outreaches. Another visit was made recently to some communities along the river, where in each one we were able to give a short message using the 'Two Ways' chart. With the shortage of petrol at present, these trips have become very difficult.

One of the brethren who was baptized in December, Sr Joel, is of the Warao tribe and speaks their language fluently. The Lord has helped him to preach the gospel in their

language and it has been a help for some people who come to the meetings and who know very little Spanish. We are praying the Lord may use this brother in the gospel.

In spite of all the challenges in Venezuela, we are so thankful for the many who are willing to listen to the

gospel, and we can still say that there is a "great and effectual door". Please keep praying for the Lord's work in this country.

C. 2014 (Ven)

WILLIAM TURKINGTON

16/2/23



Believers who form the new assembly in Tucupita

Wednesday 5th

SCOTLAND



2 Sam 12-14

Inverness

I'm thankful to the Lord to be on my feet more now than in December and January. I have to go for further tests in early March to clarify the nature of the infection that led to the sepsis that had me hospitalised over Christmas and the new year. But this is all in the Lord's hands – I would appreciate your prayers for these investigations.

In the last few weeks, I've been able to be back at Bible teaching in Culloden on Lord's Days. I continue in a teaching series through Galatians, shared with Michael Wilkie. It is my hope to be back in street work in early March and also to restart the Home Bible Studies. The Lord's people have been a great help and blessing at this time.

Lindsey and the children are well. The children seem to be going from one virus to another, but this seems to be par for the course for families with young children this winter! Isaac is now 8 years old, with Hannah turning 7 this week! Little Hope is just one month away from turning 4! Please continue to pray for them. Please also continue to remember a number of recent additions to Culloden. We have been blessed by several younger believers joining us – including a few first-generation Christians. Their keenness to progress for the Lord has been an inspiration.

C. 2017

ANDREW & LINDSEY WILLIAMSON

27/2/23



This year, God willing, will see many opportunities to teach the word of God and preach the gospel, both in the UK and in other parts of the world. The burden is heavy, and the needs of the saints are varied. Please pray for continued help, freshness and relevance in the preparation and delivery of the Scriptures. Daily opportunities to serve in this way are not taken for granted, and it is our great desire that Christ is honoured, and saints of all ages encouraged and strengthened in the faith.

One such example is the recent Bible Teaching Weekend in Plains (Scotland). These are generally designed to kill the preacher (!) by compressing as much teaching as possible into a 48-hour period. This time I took the subject of "Young People of Scripture" and was encouraged to see over 100, largely young people, actively engaged and interested in the study of the word of God. We pray they will be preserved from the evil one in these dark days and be prepared to take up the mantle of testimony until the Saviour comes.

There is much to be thankful for in our home assembly in Bracknell. The assembly is expanding in number, and we have a large contingent of young families. We have just concluded a half-term Holiday Bible Club which attracted 44 different children, numerous parents, and several unsaved to the prizegiving on the Friday night. We were pleased to have several enquiries about Sunday School and our mid-week children's work from the thousands of flyers delivered by hand around the estate, and electronically through local schools. A few months ago we also welcomed 150 children from the local primary school for a Christmas exhibition – we are pleased this liberty in the gospel continues despite a change of leadership in the school.

Friday 7th

SCOTLAND



2 Sam 18-20

Aberdeen

Summerhill Home is a residential care home in Aberdeen, which provides a high standard of care for its residents within a Christian environment.

The history of Summerhill Home began in early 1960s when concerns were raised by one man in particular, Mr Alex Ross, in relation to the establishment of a home for the

elderly where a Christian environment would be appreciated and enjoyed. Since this was to be a new venture, careful and detailed discussions were held over a period of two years, supported by a number of Assemblies in and around Aberdeen.

The building work was completed in the summer of 1965 and an open day was held on Saturday 9th October 1965. The original building had capacity for 12 residents with accommodation for a matron/superintendent. Over the years, the number of elderly saints requiring care has increased steadily and this has necessitated improvements and extensions to the Home. Extra bedrooms, a second lounge, a new and extended dining room, kitchen improvements, en-suite showers and a laundry room have been added as the needs have arisen.

Summerhill Home has 22 bedrooms arranged across the facility.

Views of the surrounding area and garden provide a peaceful and relaxing environment for residents and their guests.

Our residents are entertained with a regular varied programme of activities, created to suit all residents and includes everything from activities within the home to trips out into the local community.

Unfortunately, with Covid-19 restrictions regular trips to restaurants, parks, cafes, markets and shops as well as organised outings to places of interest were cancelled for upwards of two years, although they are recommencing.

We hold regular celebrations for landmark days and events throughout the year, and organise activity groups within the home such as knitting, painting and exercising.

The spiritual needs of our residents are addressed by daily devotions, a Sunday afternoon service and visits from fellow believers.



External front view of Summerhill Home

The day-to-day running of Summerhill Home is conducted by the Manager, Administration Manager and Care-Team Manager, supported by a range of dedicated care staff.

As a registered charity the overall management of Summerhill is the responsibility of the Board of Trustees. Since opening in 1965, more than four hundred believers have been cared for, some for a short time, some for a period of respite care, others for many years. The age range has been wide, the youngest being admitted at the age of 67 years and several have celebrated their 100th birthday, while in residence.

All involved with Summerhill Home are conscious that much guidance and help has been given by God over the years and, in particular, over the past two years with the increased demands due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

As Trustees we appreciate the interest, prayers and support of the Lord's people. 'Hitherto has the Lord helped us'. 1 Samuel 7:1

THE TRUSTEES OF THE SUMMERHILL HOME

21/2/23

Saturday 8th

ARGENTINA



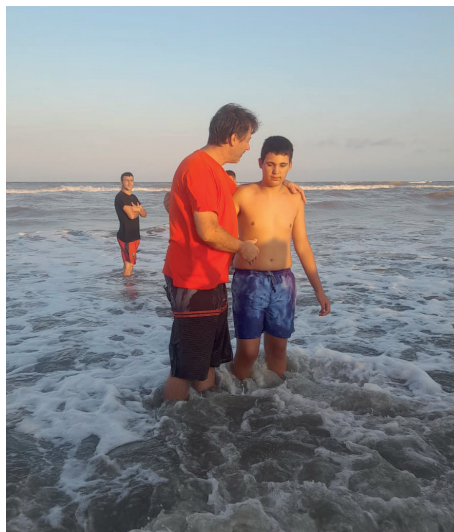
2 Sam 21-22

Parana

This year started with a few hiccups! Fiona broke a bone in her foot and had a boot for around five weeks then physiotherapy. She's now back on the go. At the beginning of the month, Ayrton broke his arm (humerus bone) playing arm wrestling! We're waiting on the hospital calling to say they have the nails and plates for surgery to go forward!! He's been in a lot of pain. They haven't put a stookie (Scottish term for a plaster cast) on so that the bone doesn't weld.

Heber & I were able to get away for a week's holiday then on to a teens camp. We must be getting old. We felt they had so much energy. We were up at 7.30 a.m. and went to bed between 1 and 2am! Must say we tried to get at least a half hour nap after midday! We were able to help with counselling the leaders as there were a few cases of abuse and suicide intents (13 and 14-year-olds). In the afternoon they were preaching the gospel on the beach and on Friday we had the joy of witnessing 27 young people being baptised in the sea.

In January and February, we have been able to bless two sisters and their families by painting their house and doing some DIY work (Galatians 6:10).



Baptism

Sunday 9th

ITALY



2 Sam 23-24

Naples



Next September Joy will start high school, which meant that she needed to make a choice as to what sort of school she wanted to go to, which in many ways depends on what sort of job she wants to do. As she wants to be a brain surgeon, she has chosen what would be equivalent to a scientific based grammar school. Her “brain surgeon” aspirations do bring a smile to our face, yet at the same time, the school that she has chosen should stand her in good stead for a variety of career choices in the future. We are very much before the Lord that He would give us wisdom in guiding her through the challenging teenage years.

Joseph (in the middle of the photo) discussed his thesis on artificial intelligence on the 1st of February and has now officially graduated. We do thank the Lord for His faithfulness to Joseph during this period of study and for how he has grown into a young man. He takes his ministry with the Sunday School and music very seriously, which again is a reason to give thanks. Now that he has started work, he and his girlfriend are talking about marriage, so life in the Catchpole family may change before long!

Josiah has now finished his three month computer programming course. Having then spent a couple of weeks learning how to develop projects, he now hopes to enter the job market. He continues to preach and help in various ministries in the life of the assembly. His girlfriend Rossana is completing an MA degree in Italian and hopes to become a teacher before long.

My mum was over for most of the month of December. She is such a lovely person,

yet we have a heavy heart as she continually resists the Lord's voice. She is now 80 so humanly speaking her days are running out, so please do pray that the Lord might touch her heart in some way. Via WhatsApp, I sent her a Bible reading every day in the hope that she might read it, but sadly she didn't even open it!

As far as the building project is concerned, we had hoped to have signed an agreement with the local council and be finally in possession of the planning permission. That said, we have had (unofficially) some brilliant news. One of our church members is employed as a lawyer in the planning office of the council! He has heard this news, but we have yet to get official confirmation.

1. We have been exempt from paying any tax. Although by law we are exempt, not all councils interpret the law like that, as per the Pozzuoli council. Thankfully they have changed their minds, which means we will save up to €40,000.
2. The formal agreement between us and the council is finally being written. It has taken months to resolve some problems. It has also taken tremendous patience!
3. The geologist has taken some samples of the land to verify what sort of foundations will be needed and the engineer has done the necessary calculations to make the building earthquake proof.

The Lord has wonderfully answered prayer for a suitable temporary meeting place. A church a few miles away that have their meetings in the evenings have offered the use of their building in the mornings and twice a month on Thursday evenings. It is such a relief to meet in such a place after years of being in a restaurant, a wellness centre and in the open air, with all the logistical difficulties that we faced weekly.

C. 1995

ALEX & PATRIZIA CATCHPOLE

28/2/23



Monday 10th

POLAND



1 Kings 1-2

Tami and I have experienced a very difficult 10 months, and we want to thank each one that has prayed and supported us in various ways over this period.

Family News

At the end of March 2022, our daughter, Moriah (13) was thrown from a horse into a wall and suffered a severe concussion. This has resulted in a Functional Neurological Disorder, which includes Psychogenic Non-epileptic seizures. She could not do anything for months, often losing her ability to walk and talk, needing round-the-clock care. She goes to various therapies to aid in her recovery, including vision and trauma therapy. Tami and I have held to the belief that the Lord has a purpose and plan, and even when we cannot see that purpose, we can remember the words of Scripture, 'Blessed are those who put their trust in Him' (Psalm 2:12).

Portugal and Poland

Due to Moriah's accident, our trip to Portugal last April was cancelled, and I (Mark) only made it to Poland once in 2022. The teaching ministry has continued over Zoom.

The Ukraine Crisis

The Polish believers have been heavily involved in ministry to Ukrainians, both in Poland and in the Ukraine. CMML has a Ukrainian Crisis fund, and since the beginning of the war, we have been involved in identifying where funds should be directed. The Polish effort can be divided into 4 categories:



Ukrainians receiving supplies

Literature

To date, the Polish believers have printed over a half million books/pamphlets that have been distributed in the Ukraine and other places where refugees can be found. Below is what has been printed:

- ❑ Gospel Literature work
 - Gospel of John (225,000 in Ukrainian)
 - Why does God Allows War? (230,000 in Ukrainian)
 - Is peace possible? (39,000 in Ukrainian)
 - Is peace possible? (10,000 in Polish)
- ❑ Emmaus courses:
 - Born to Win (20,000 in Ukrainian)
 - God's Word (19,000 in Ukrainian)
 - Men who met the Master (5,000 in Ukrainian)
 - Woman who pleases God (17,000 in Russian)
 - Emmaus Posters (2,000 in Ukrainian & Russian)
 - Bookmarks (4,000 in Ukrainian & Russian)

Humanitarian aid

In the early days of the war, aid included greeting refugees at the border, and providing practical and spiritual help. As the war progressed, it included providing temporary housing in assembly buildings and in the homes of believers. Today, there is humanitarian aid locally, as well as supplies and gospel literature which are sent into the Ukraine.

Local efforts

In Bielsko Biala, the assembly has been active in not only providing humanitarian support, but also holding Bible studies. They have sought to meet the needs of those who have experienced trauma due to the war. They have rented a house where refugees stay and are ministered to by the local assembly.

In Zywiec, the believers are able to house large numbers of children, orphaned or displaced by the war.

In Rydułtowy, the local effort has resulted in Ukrainians coming to the assembly meetings. These types of stories have played out in various assemblies in Poland.

Transport to the Ukraine

The assembly in Palowice, Poland has been a hub for gathering supplies to be taken into the Ukraine. These supplies are delivered to churches covering 18 different cities and towns. These churches deliver the supplies to those in need. This is a large, ongoing effort, involving brethren from various countries. To date, over a half million dollars has been spent on supplies and transportation for this ministry.

Tuesday 11th

MOLDOVA



1 Kings 3-5

Zirnesti

Although we have been living in Moldova for over 14 years, we continue to be amazed and give thanks to God for the open doors for the Gospel in this little country. We continue to work with the Zirnesti Christian Assembly and CMIAID in the village of Zirnesti in the Cahul region. Until February last year it was a nation which went largely unnoticed in the world, but the war in neighbouring Ukraine quickly changed that. Over 600,000 refugees flooded into Moldova, temporarily increasing the country's population by almost a quarter in just over a month! We thank the Lord for the opportunities that this gave to provide practical assistance to many of these refugees in the way of food, clothing, heating fuels and sanitary

items, as well as to distribute Gospel literature and Gospels of John in the Ukrainian and Russian languages. Many Ukrainian refugees remain in Moldova, and we continue



Zirnesti Christian Assembly, Moldova

to provide whatever help we can. We are very thankful for the generous support of the Lord's people in helping with these needs.

Last December we held our second Christmas Festival at the CMI AID Bethesda Centre. The festival is open to the community to attend free of charge, with free food and drinks, games, activities, and crafts for the children. It is set up a like a Christmas market, except that nothing is for sale! The purpose, of course, is to share the Gospel. Throughout the festival site there are three Gospel tents which children must visit before they can receive their gifts as they leave. There is also a literature tent where Bibles, New Testaments, Christian books, calendars, and Gospel literature are available in Russian and Romanian. We give thanks to the Lord that throughout December, over 9,500 people attended the festival and over 70,000 pieces of literature were distributed.

Here are a few prayer points concerning **plans for 2023**:

1. Pray for the *Child of the King* presentation being held at the Bethesda Centre. It is offered to all government schools in the Cahul region, and the good thing is that the Director of Education actively encourages schools to book in to see this Gospel presentation. The story is based on the life of George Muller and William, one of the orphans who came to know the Lord Jesus as his Saviour. By September we expect that 9,500 school children and teachers will have seen the presentation.
2. Pray for the distribution of Gospels of John in Ukraine. So far over 150,000 have been shipped into Ukraine for distribution to Ukrainian soldiers and at Gospel outreaches.
3. Pray for the translation and publishing work of CMI AID Publications. We thank the Lord that the first part of the Eastern Armenian edition of *Believer's Bible Commentary* has just been printed in Armenia. Pray for the translation into both Romanian and Eastern Armenian of *Church: Masterpiece of the Ages* by J B Nicholson.
4. Pray for the weekly village Bible Clubs. These are held in village schools after school hours. The clubs are also an opportunity to distribute BibleTime lessons to children so that they can learn more of the Bible at home. Pray for the many children doing the lessons.
5. Pray for the CMI AID Fire Service as it continues to respond to emergencies and provide practical help in the local community. We thank the Lord for the way that He has used this service to open many doors for the Gospel among government fire-fighters and the police. Pray for the Moldovan emergency service workers who received fire-fighter and police Gospel calendars that we had printed specially for them.

*Pray for the distribution of
Gospels of John in Ukraine*

Wednesday 12th

VENEZUELA



1 Kings 6-7

Writing from N Ireland

We were delighted to be back in Venezuela for a five-month visit (Sept 22 – Feb 23). The following is an update of our activities. During October I had ministry meetings with basic Bible teaching on the local Assembly and its Figures in the New Testament



Gospel meeting at Los Hornos

with the relatively new Assembly in Valle de la Pascua. It was formed at the beginning of 2018 and only had a few years of activities when the Pandemic arrived. A couple of new believers attended these meetings that had just been baptized and added to the company last August.

The first weekend in November I had the privilege of being at the annual Conference for Elders at Salom, Yaracuy. 24 of the full-time Workers were present for 11 Bible Readings and some ministry sessions.

In November I had three weeks of Gospel Meetings with the help of local brethren in the garage of one of the believers in Carlos Perez, Valle de la Pascua. A few locals came in during the earlier weeks, but it was difficult to see them attend regularly. One or two ladies attended on a regular basis and some others sat outside on the street listening reverently. Many neighbours heard the Gospel through the loudspeaker.

In December I was asked by the brethren if I could cover the Seven Feasts of Jehovah in a series of ministry meetings as they had never heard it taught before. I thought the best way to do it was to use a chart, so I translated an English one into Spanish and got it printed onto a large vinyl. The meetings went on for two weeks and were very interesting and encouraging to the new believers.

In January I commenced another series of Gospel Meetings in the Valle de la Pascua Gospel Hall. The hall is in the middle of a built up area so it is within easy reach of the people but very few venture in. During the first two weeks a few different people known to us did attend on various occasions, including a few of the believers' families. The third

week was a lot smaller and some stopped coming, however we were encouraged to see two men drop in that were complete strangers to us. A young man of 18 came in on a few occasions and shortly after the meetings finished told us he got saved at home.

Two children's meetings are held each Saturday by the local brethren. Much 'good seed' has been sown in this way down through the years. We were greatly encouraged to hear of the Salvation of a young man (30) that attended about 20 years ago and had lived a rebellious life. He has been very unwell since November and had to be operated on 3 times. As he was going into one of the operations he realised he was facing death and needed Salvation. We pray he will be raised to health and be a testimony to the Grace of God.

Last week I was helping in some Gospel Meetings with the La Pica Assembly (Maracay) in Barrio Los Hornos. Between 10-20 unsaved neighbours and family members attended each night.

Your prayers for the Work here are greatly valued that the light of Divine Truth will shine amidst all the spiritual darkness and that many will be blessed for Eternity.

C. 2003

STEPHEN & HELEN REDPATH

27/2/23

Thursday 13th

ZAMBIA



1 Kings 8-9

Writing from Scotland

The Lusaka Bible Centre is far from finished, but we were thrilled to welcome our first group of 20 believers for a week of Bible teaching in November. We just managed to get the seminar room, sleeping accommodation, kitchen and shower facilities finished in time. In April we are expecting the same group back for a week, and then another group of about 30 the following week.

Please continue praying for strength, wisdom and patience as we progress the building work when we get back from furlough in early July. Our focus will be to get the Bookshop, Emmaus work and prison visitation up and running as soon as possible. We will need all the prayer we can get!

We praise God for the Chingola Bible Centre team, who are doing a great job in continuing the work in the capital city. We have now moved to Lusaka to develop a similar work there, but we are so grateful to the Lord for the hard work and commitment of the believers in Chingola in getting God's Word out into the hands and hearts of their own people. Please continue to pray for them.

C. 1987

IAN & MARILYN CAMPBELL

10/2/23

Friday 14th

IRELAND



1 Kings 10-11

Cootehill

We were very glad to enter the new year with most of our prizegivings planned. The challenges of getting back to 10 weeks of traveling across the length and breadth of the country were not small. Thankfully the fact that the plan came together early, and we have a larger team than in previous years eased some of the challenges. At the



point of writing at the end of February, we are almost halfway through, and we have been thoroughly encouraged by the welcome we have received both in schools and at public events. Already we have been able to share bible stories with over 1,300 children and their parents, together with singing songs and sending prizes with bible verses into their homes. Overall, the season will offer the opportunity to be in 30 different locations across 15 counties. We pray for the Lord's blessing on the message spoken, his preservation of the door open and his special working in the hearts of a few young people with little knowledge of the message who might apply to come to summer camp.

In the midst of our early preparation for the prizegivings during January we also ran our first STEP (Sharing Truth : Encouraging Practice) weekend of 2023 which afforded time to teach and study the book of 2nd Samuel. We were blessed with a great attendance and a real willingness to take in the truth of the word.



As well as the routine work of the office, we have worked hard to get a relaunch of our website, with some video content reformatted. This is the first phase of a larger project through which we hope to offer more resources to our students

digitally. Please pray that we are able to invest our time wisely in this regard. So many opportunities exist that we must be careful to select those which are most useful. In conjunction with this, we plan again to run our summer iTeam, a week of young believers coming together to use their digital, creative and storytelling abilities to create video resources to support the message of the lessons. We will host this in early August just before Ruth leaves us to return to her job in Austria. As yet we don't know what the Lord's provision for office staff looks like for next year, but we continue to pray that as He has supplied our needs in the past He will do so again.

C. 2018

GARETH & MARGARET McMEEKIN

28/2/23

Saturday 15th

BOTSWANA



1 Kings 12-13

Gaborone

Each Thursday evening, we have an open-air gospel meeting. We have 4 spots we go to,



Open air

all a stone's throw from the hall in a very poor area. A house built on the ground floor will be split into separate rooms and each room has a exterior door. One room per family with an outside pit toilet and outside tap. Many cook outside in camping style, others have a gas ring with cylinder and cook in that one room.

The low-cost alcohol in Botswana (called Chibuku) is very popular, and as I tract each Thursday evening whilst the meeting is in progress, I see that many of the adults are drinking. Plenty of children run around totally uninhibited and it is from these areas we get our children for Sunday afternoon Sunday School.

The photo shows a line of cute children coming to listen. Oh .. children in Africa are so special. Always ready to listen. It is a blessing.

You can imagine that we have been really thrilled to see the children "pouring back" for Sunday Schools. All covid restrictions are now lifted and we have re-opened SS's we had to close 3 years ago. It's pretty full on with 12 different Sunday Schools, but we are rejoicing. We are so grateful for every opportunity and every open door, and we wouldn't mind a bit more energy!



PAKISTAN

I am well and my family and the believers from the neighbouring assemblies in Pakistan send you greetings. They do pray for all of you.

I am very excited to say that God has changed the lives of two Hindu families that were making clay to make bricks. One group of believers listen to their audio bibles during their work and the Hindus that work in the same area also listened. They heard the words 'and I will give unto thee



the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven' (Matt. 16:19). That made them astonished and they showed their desire to learn more about it and the Christians told them about the Lord Jesus, and that all things were created by Him. During my visit to the same village, I also taught them about the Lord Jesus from the gospels. They became interested because in Hinduism there is no hope about the future after death. I taught them that the Lord Jesus will come again soon and that every eye will see Him and every knee will bow down before Him. They listened carefully for some weeks and God touched their hearts; they repented and came to Jesus Christ for salvation. The new believers are K (40 years old) and U (39 years old, K's wife), S (30 years old) and his sister B (45 years old). I am so excited that God is working in and through the lives of His people to the eternal blessing of others.

It is still very cold in the night time and day time is a little warmer because of the sun. We are so happy and give thanks to God for the kindness of other Christians that has enabled us to provide local believers with new tents and warm clothes and blankets to save their children from cold. I am also glad to say that we have been able to repair the homes of over 50 in our locality. If God had not helped to repair their homes, many believers would have died from cold and other diseases.

We also helped some assemblies with clean water supplies because many children used to die from drinking dirty water. In prisons we installed clean water filters that are free to use for Hindus and believers.

Sister Noreen's children are going to school, and they are sitting exams. Please pray for them. (Noreen is a sister who was saved in prison. When she was released, she adopted two children who had been orphaned but then she passed away last year. Her adopted children are now being cared for by her mother).

Our motor bikes are making us able to reach many areas in less time, which is a great blessing of God. We are thankful to all of you for your love, support, and prayers.

Monday 17th

VENEZUELA



1 Kings 17-18

Los Altos

During the month of December, we were able to travel to Tucupita, Delta Amacuro State, for the establishment of a new assembly. William Turkington moved there some years ago with his family and has been working in that area since. It is in the extreme east of Venezuela with a large indigenous community. Even under difficult circumstances, he has seen the hand of the Lord in the work carried out there. The assembly has 23 members in fellowship and on Saturday night, the wife of one of those believers professed to be saved, so it was a weekend filled with joy.

On our return, we prepared to travel to the centre of the country for the first national 'in-person' post pandemic conferences. These were being held in Puerto Cabello and also in Maracay. This year we went to the Puerto Cabello conference and enjoyed four days teaching and fellowship. Once again, days filled with much joy. After spending some time with the family, we returned home on the 31st December.



Group of believers on Sunday morning following baptisms

Since the 2nd January, we have been in gospel meetings in the little town of San Pedrito, with Noel McKeown joining us at the end of the week. A little over three years ago an assembly was established there, being the youngest and smallest in the northeast of the country. It is nearly an hour's drive from home over a dangerous and very deteriorated road in the mountains, but the Lord has kept us safe journeying every night. With the help of Los Altos brethren, we have been able to visit the neighbours, inviting them to the meetings, handing out tracts and leaving a gospel text in each home. God has been working! Each night we have seen a full hall, with the brethren sometimes having to leave their seats to allow the visitors in.

On Saturday we visited a lady called Yamileth Diaz. She had suffered an accident in her home and hadn't been able to return to the meetings. She told us she had wanted to be saved for days but didn't have the courage to decide, then on Thursday while getting ready for the meeting, she slipped and fell on a wet floor, hurt herself badly and couldn't get up by herself. Later in her bedroom, as she kept thinking about the uncertainty of life, she looked up and saw a little text that we had given to her son. It read 'What must I do to be saved?... Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved' (Acts 16:30-31). She understood the Lord was calling to her and overcame her fears, received the Lord and was wonderfully saved. This has been a great encouragement to the San Pedrito brethren and ourselves. There are other locals attending and listening; we are praying for some who seem to be showing a special interest. At the end of the meetings, the brethren hope to have some baptisms as there are a few who want to take this step.

At the end of these meetings, we hope to visit Piñantal once again. The dry season has come, and although the roads are still in a terrible condition, they are at least dry and manageable. Some brethren have been able to visit and have brought us good news regarding the new believers there – this gives us much joy!

C. 2018 (Ven)

PEDRO & LOIS MALAVE

17/2/23

Tuesday 18th

CANADA



1 Kings 19-20

Bridgewater, Nova Scotia

I spent the concluding months of 2022 in a number of Gospel series. I joined Aaron Hubley for meetings in Nineveh, Nova Scotia; Brody Thibodeau in Cedar Fall's, Iowa and Tim Burton for 5 weeks in Clementsvalle, Nova Scotia.

I have been home since the beginning of the year and have been seeking to help the assemblies locally. I was with Clementsvalle two weeks ago for their midweek Gospel meeting. They had a good number in attendance and some of the Ukrainians that attended the recent Gospel series were also present.



I had a week of Bible readings on 1 John in Roseisle, Manitoba, in early February. We also considered 2 & 3 John and Revelation chapter 1 in 3 sessions of ministry. I found the meetings to be very practical and personally challenging.

I was privileged to be in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, last week for ministry on 'Crucial Couples' from Luke's Gospel. We appreciate that we are living in times when faithfulness to the Lord is being tested. I trust that the Lord will enable us to be like those we considered and to live for Him.

JOHN & ELAINE MEEKIN

2/3/23



On Monday 16th January I travelled to Uganda where I was joined by our brother Stephen Baker. We had a really good time with the believers there. We spent a few days near the city of Mbale in the East, where we visited three groups of new believers for Bible teaching. For the past three years, Stephen has faithfully been giving weekly Bible teaching online to the saints in Mbale. He is also involved in a regular radio work with brother Charles Sanya from Mbale, and this work has been used by God to reach many souls with the gospel.



Our teaching whilst there was focused on the basic, important doctrinal issues such as headship and the women's role in the church. The teaching was received fairly well but raised a lot of questions and discussions. For a lot of these believers, this teaching, primarily regarding the role of women, is completely alien to them. It is good that they do question it and are interested to hear what the Bible says.

We then travelled to the town of Mbarara in the south-west. I have mentioned in the past our brother and friend Allan Tayebwa and his wife Maggie and their three children who live and serve the Lord in Nansana, near Kampala. Allan is a very faithful, Christ-like brother. They are hoping to move to Mbarara to start a new work. In this area there are very few good, sound, Bible believing churches. We spent a full day with a few brothers who are planning to spearhead this work with Allan. Our teaching was primarily focused on the biblical concept of marriage, but other important topics were touched on too.

We continue to distribute the Bible verse high visibility vests in Uganda. They are very well received by many different individuals, including Muslim motorbike riders. It is such a joy to see these vests go on the backs of so many needy souls. We pray that not only the rider will read God's word, but also their passengers and the many people they pass by. We occasionally receive photos and words of encouragement from other Christians out in Uganda who are delighted that these vests are bringing God's word to the rural areas of Uganda.

Allan & Maggie are hoping to travel to the UK later this year, God willing. Pray that they will be given visas to travel. We are sure this trip will be an encouragement to them and also those they meet here.

God willing, I hope to make another trip or two this year to Uganda and trust that this time will be for the blessing of many.

Thursday 20th

2 Kings 1-3

ST LUCIA, WEST INDIES



Cicéron

Last year there was a series of gospel meetings with the assembly at La Guerre during the month of November. With my parents down for a visit, Dad shared in the meeting along with local brethren and myself. It was wonderful that the Lord saved a young man, an adult son of believers in the assembly there. In addition, just last week I was told of another older woman who is now saved, and she would point to those meetings as a real time of God speaking. There is great privilege in sowing and great joy when there is a harvest.



Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth:
for I am God, and there is none else. ISAIAH 45:22

2023

Calendar 2023 - St. Lucia

The weekly distributions of texts and tracks is ongoing as we seek to bring the gospel to individuals throughout St Lucia. We pray for wisdom as to what to speak and how best to present our glorious Saviour to them. In the village of Anse la Raye there is a home that I go to for a gospel meeting most Sunday afternoons. We pray for a grandmother, as well as adult children and grandchildren who are there listening.

The New Year's Conference was hosted this year by the La Guerre assembly. It was encouraging to see the building quite well filled with believers from around the island, families, and also connections of many from the La Guerre assembly. It is always a good time of fellowship with each other and around the Word of God.



Children's work in Anse la Raye

At the end of January we returned to the town of Anse la Raye for a week of children's meetings. It has been three years since we have been there last for children's work due primarily to Covid issues. The week got off to a bit of a rocky start with the children being out of Bible Hour routine, however the next few days were much better. It has been very encouraging to see some of the ones coming who used to come 3-4 years ago. The number of children kept rising through the week and almost 60 different ones attended at some point. On the Wednesday, one boy named Ljay stayed behind to ask how he can know he is forgiven. On the Friday, every chair we had in the little rented building was filled and thankfully our Lord answered our prayers, and overall good attention was given to the Bible lesson. We plan to return for another week in the Lord's will at the end of March.

We would appreciate your **prayers** for the following items.

1. Pray that the 25,000 wall calendars containing the Word of God, which were distributed in many communities across the island, will be a real blessing.
2. Pray for the many around the island who have had the privilege of hearing the gospel in the past. Pray that they would surrender and not harden their hearts any longer.
3. Pray for the Saturday Bible Class with young believers and new believers; that they would be rooted, grounded, established, and preserved. Pray that there will be God-honouring marriages among these ones in the future.
4. Pray for another generation of men to be raised by the Holy Spirit to guide and shepherd the local assemblies.
5. Pray for the restoration of believers away from the Lord.
6. Pray for wisdom for Trena and I as we seek the will of God in relation to what He would desire us to focus on in our labours for Him here.

Once again, we want to thank you for your prayers for us and the work of the Lord in St. Lucia.

C. 2017 (Can)

PHIL & TRENA GOULD

15/2/23

*There is a great privilege in
sowing and great joy
when there is a harvest*



The Lord has enabled us to have a further visit to Venezuela, we arrived on 25th November and, in the will of the Lord, will return to N.Ireland on 2nd May. The results of recent scans and blood work were good which would seem to indicate that presently my condition is fairly stable. My doctor was happy to give the green light to travel.

Conditions in the country have not improved much, the one main difference is that there is plenty of food to be had in the shops, but generally at a price that is beyond most. A big number of Venezuelans have emigrated to other countries and many of these are helping their family by sending funds as they are able. As all would understand this has been a good help.



We were so glad to be here for the annual conference, the first one since lockdown. It was held from Thursday evening 22nd Dec. through to Lord's Day 25th. It was most encouraging to see so many gathered. On Saturday about 650 meals were served at each sitting, in spite of the present situation in the country. The Lord is Faithful. To God be the glory. There were 11 of the Lord's servants present and the Lord gave special help to all to faithfully minister the word. Special emphases were made of the need to 'Contend earnestly for the Faith once delivered to the saints'. Assembly truth was the main theme of the conference.

Samuel put our tent up early in January in the town of Palo Negro (where we live) on the site where the old hall has been demolished. It was built by Mr. Fairfield in the 1930's. Like David's provision for the building of the temple, we have been, for quite a few years, buying material for the building of the new hall. It was most encouraging to see the tent well filled most evenings. The Lord's people were most faithful in their support. A good number of unsaved were present nightly, with help from God to make the Gospel known. We have been encouraged to know of two women, who had been long prayed for, professing to be saved. Others showed interest and we look to the Lord to bless further in salvation. We will appreciate your prayer for us at this time.

This week we have commenced meetings in the neighbouring town of Santa Cruz. There is no assembly there, but a children's meeting has been held each Saturday for many years, in the home of a sister in fellowship who lives there. We have had an encouraging beginning, with a good number of family and neighbours present each night. We look to the Lord to bless His word in salvation and that a testimony may be raised up in this needy town.

Saturday 22nd

SOUTH AFRICA



2 Kings 6-8

George

'Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth'(Luke 15:10).

Over the last few weeks, two young folk accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour after the prayer and Bible study. We have previously asked for prayer for Chireva (Grade 11), who has completed 120 Afrikaans Bible correspondence lessons. Chireva was the first to come to the Saviour, and then Nathan the following week. These are both children of believers in the assembly. Then following the Bible study on the way home, as we arrived at a young mum's house, Abigail, she said she had to get right with the Saviour. She has since been attending with her four children. We are so encouraged and pray these young ones might go on for the Lord Jesus Christ and follow in obedience in baptism.

It was good to reflect on 2022 and the goodness of the Lord in so many ways. Hitherto hath the Lord helped us. We are thankful for the unsaved who attend the open-air and Gospel meetings each week. We are also so thankful for the protecting hand of the Lord. We were on our way to the Gospel meeting; our vehicle was full. Suddenly the road was barricaded, and many police vehicles arrived on the scene. There was a chase and then shooting began. We thank the Lord for His goodness and allowing us to come away unharmed and the calmness of the elderly widows travelling with us.

We are happy to continue at the tuberculosis hospital, to distribute literature and chat and pray with patients. We were asked to help them make valentine's day cards. It was a wonderful opportunity to distribute booklets of the gospel of John and witness of the Love of Christ, a love that surpasses any other love.

We are thankful for over 30 children who have joined the Afrikaans Bible correspondence this year. We are also glad for a few mums who have asked to join. One of these mums recently professed salvation in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Please continue to pray for the cottage meetings. We have had quite a few open doors this year already. Please continue to pray for our many single mums and for the two who completed the course of home care but have not been able to get a job as yet.

Please pray for Robin's mum, who had a fall and broke her ankle. She had to have surgery and consequently surgery on her bladder too. She is still in rehabilitation, but not managing very well at all. Please remember the van der Merwe family. Our dear brother Gert went home to be with the Lord. He was a delightfully humble brother. He assisted us on several occasions with the children's outreach. Please continue to remember our family and concerns, Robin's health and Daniel who recently commenced work in Joburg.

C. 2000

ROBIN & MARY ROSSOUW

23/2/23



'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord....they will rest from their labour' (Revelation 14:13.

This verse is a great comfort and encouragement at a time of life when it seems that more and more often we get news that another dear brother or sister in Christ has gone home to be with the Lord!

But the question of rest is also in the headlines in France at the moment. Huge protests with strikes and demonstrations are a recurring feature in the land of our adoption every time the government dares to propose another reform of state pensions. The media give the impression that nobody feels able to work until they are 64 anymore. Could it be that, in a society which has turned its back on God, the only substitute for eternal hope which the world has to offer is a long happy retirement? A very uncertain hope when you think about it. We can sympathise with those who yearn for rest but we also rejoice in a sure hope for those who live in the light of eternity and whose horizon is not limited to retirement.



So many people have crossed our path through the years and, of course, we have lost touch with most of them. At some point we were able to have some input in their lives, then they moved, we moved, life went on. Sometimes we had news of one or another and it wasn't always good. So, it was a great encouragement to come face to face recently with two different people who have certainly had their ups and downs but who, by the grace of God, are persevering. We give thanks to Him who is able to keep us from stumbling and to present us before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy.

We can also think of several hundred young teenagers who attended summer camps with us over a period of twenty years. We occasionally come across one or other of them in a local church on our travels. It does our heart good to discover that they are going on with the Lord. Let's continue to pray for the seed sown in so many hearts and which can still bear fruit 30 or 40 years later. The Lord Jesus said: 'with God, all things are possible'.

In March, we plan to visit Saint-Yorre, a 10-minute drive from home, and Figeac, a journey that takes about 3¼ hours. Saint-Yorre is a small town of about 2,500 inhabitants, known for its sparkling water. A small fellowship there is struggling to maintain a witness and has asked for help.

Monday 24th

VENEZUELA



2 Kings 11-13

Tucupita

We are very grateful to the Lord for the opportunity which He has given us to help here in Tucupita, and be part of the assembly recently formed. It is wonderful to see what the Lord has done in each one of the believers, including ourselves. He has saved us and has brought us to this place at this point of time. As the psalmist reminds us, 'But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting' (Ps 103:17).

We ask for your prayers for the many needy souls in these parts and for us, that we may continue to be able to help those around us, both believers and also those in need of salvation.

We have a young daughter, age 14, who is studying in the public high school here in Tucupita. We ask you to pray for her, that she may give a good testimony for the gospel's sake. Her name is Sharyn Victoria.

Our desire is that the Lord may prosper you in all you are doing and that He may fill you with His knowledge and love.

DAVID & LEIDIS PEREZ

16/2/23

Tuesday 25th

SCOTLAND



2 Kings 14-16

This is an extremely busy time for **Brass Tacks**.

We have had a team working in a middle eastern country over the past month. They were assisting a national worker and his wife to construct a rest house which will give refuge to new believers. We are thankful for safety in travel and good progress. They just returned home and will be glad of a few days' rest.



Meanwhile, it's all systems go on the island of Arran, just off the Scottish mainland. This project involves erecting nine wooden chalet/huts on a field which is used every summer for camps for children. Previously, sleeping accommodation was in tents, with a few basic buildings for meeting and cooking. Work began last week, first of all clearing the ground and putting down foundations. It is exciting to think of the number of youngsters who will pass through that place and hear the Good News of the Gospel.

Several projects lie ahead in coming months, and it seems every week there is another request. Much wisdom is needed in choosing and planning. We continue to pray for the Lord's guidance.

BRASS TACKS – Update from ALAN PARK

6/3/23



Thank you for your prayerful support of the children's work. We are blessed each week as children continue to come in great numbers every Saturday. Meanwhile, the number of youth and young adult believers in the assembly is notable, for which we give God thanks. The joy of pointing them to the Saviour brings satisfaction to our short life here on earth.



The assembly work is expanding everywhere in Mozambique. As a consequence, we currently have a good number of building projects going on. In the Auto Muloque Assembly in Zambesia province, believers have begun meeting in the hall, even though the building work is not yet finished. We appreciate your prayers for these believers.

Simba Assembly Hall in Tete Province is also under construction. We are hopeful that the hall will have the roof completed before the conference due to be held in April, God willing. Pray with us that we may finish the work.

PRAYER POINTS

1. Pray with us for stronger and spiritual elders in the assemblies in each province. Help us with discipleship.
2. Pray with us for the assembly halls under construction.
3. Pray with me, that I may love my Lord every day, and I may execute my service in love.

Thursday 27th

FRANCE



2 Kings 19-21

Meyzieu

This time next week we will be in Scotland for our first furlough in four years. We are looking forward to visiting a number of believers and assemblies, and renewing contact with family and friends.

Over the past few days, we have been involved in the lives of several people in different situations:

Our regular meetings with a young elder and his wife are always encouraging times. It is great to see their growth, spiritual wisdom and their love for the Word of God.

Our local church has plans to refurbish two small houses that we own. Hopefully, the work will begin before the summer break.

With another Christian, we are preparing a book of daily readings. We met up once again for a meeting last week and we hope to send the manuscript to the printers before the end of May.

We recently attended the funeral of an elderly lady who we met many years ago. This lady was a 'healer' and very opposed to the gospel. Even when she knew that she was dying, she resisted the call for her to repent and believe. Her funeral was a very sad event and had no Christian content whatsoever. It was very 'New Age' and her widower told a number of people that she would soon be reincarnated. We live in desperately dark days.

The son-in-law of a local believer who died six weeks ago has come to the assembly every Sunday since. He even attended the prayer meeting last night. We are praying that this man's wife will also have a spiritual awakening and become zealous for the Lord she once loved.

Please pray for our time in Scotland and for the land of France in all its great need.



David's second book

Friday 28th

UKRAINE



1 Chron 1-2

Lutsk

We really appreciate the many prayers of the saints. You have been so supportive and so encouraging through all these difficult days, weeks and months of war.

In 1824, Freeman Lloyd wrote the lovely hymn 'My times are in Your Hand'. The third verse says, 'My times are in Your Hand, why should I doubt or fear, My Father's Hand will never cause, His child a needless tear'. As we approach the 24th February, one year since the war started, we are preparing ourselves for what one military commander has said will be the biggest and bloodiest battle in Europe since World War 2.

At present we have electricity, water and the internet for approximately 8 hours per day. Sirens are sounding constantly, warning us to go to the air raid basements; military jets are heard overhead daily. We will not leave as our personal safety is not our priority. God has put us here with a task to fulfil and we are trying to remain focused on our goal – the preaching of the Gospel and the upbuilding of the local assembly in Lutsk. We appreciate your prayers; there are many times during the day when the going gets tough and daily living is quite a challenge, but we remember God's people are praying so 'why should I doubt or fear, My Father's Hand will never cause, His child a needless tear'.

Assembly

We had the joy of baptising three believers recently and they have been brought into assembly fellowship. In the photograph you can see Lyuda (nearest), then Lena and Kostja. Lyuda, was saved a number of years ago and has been a very faithful attendee at all assembly meetings for a long time. Lyuda's younger sister has been in the assembly since it commenced over 20 years ago. Lena, moved from the East of Ukraine and got saved just after the war started. Her son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter were saved, baptized and brought into assembly fellowship shortly after they fled the East back in 2015. Kostja, was saved last year after the war started and it is nice to see him joining his wife Julia, who has been in the assembly for about 15 years. Another sister Oksana was to be baptized but couldn't manage to get the evening off due to work commitments. We will baptise her soon.



Orphanage renovations

We are practically finished. The cleaners are in, and we are putting the final touches to many of the bedrooms and bathrooms. There are a lot of bits and pieces but nothing really big except the commercial kitchen and dining room. With so many men in the military, suppliers are finding it difficult to work within our timescale and so, for a number of things, we just have to wait.

Calendars

We printed 35,000 calendars for 2023 and these have been mainly distributed around Lutsk, Ivano Frankivsk, as well as being sent to the front-line troops. God has promised that His word will not return unto Him void and so it is our responsibility to get His Word out among the people. We are thankful for all in the assembly who give up their Saturdays to help in the spread of the Gospel.

Literature

This year we will be concentrating on printing Gospel Tracts and small assembly booklets. If you know of something in English that you feel would be of benefit to us, please forward a copy to us and we will get it translated and printed. We are always on the lookout for Gospel material which we can distribute on the streets of Lutsk and neighbouring villages.

Gospel meetings

In the New Year we decided that we would not give out food bags every Thursday but give them a few times each month. Numbers are still amazing, and the photograph shows the people waiting outside to get in. The meeting should start at 6pm but when we open our doors at 4.45pm, we have to close them at 5.20pm as we just can't take any more. We commence at about 5.30pm with a little singing, followed by the Gospel message and we close with three brethren praying for the salvation of souls and the need of the country. After the meeting closes, we serve soup and a hot meal for all who are present.

Rhoda and I are deeply grateful that we are able to serve over 650 meals every week at the Gospel Hall. Food bags to pensioners and food supplies to the military are part of our on-going assembly testimony. The assembly believers are so thankful that all are involved in helping the dear Ukrainians defend the land. The stories we hear first-hand from the front line are horrific. It is a joy to be able to provide, bedding, clothes, food stuffs and generators to help a little. God will use His goodness to lead sinners to repentance.



We appreciate your continued prayerful and practical support.

Saturday 29th

USA



1 Chron 3-5

San Antonio

The population of San Antonio is about 63% hispanic, and our desire in settling here is to reach members of the hispanic community with the gospel, and see an assembly established for the honour and glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In November 2021, we were grateful to find and make suitable a

rental building on the largely hispanic west side of the city. A Seed Sowers group came to help distribute 45,000 packets, containing John 3:16 in both English and Spanish and an invitation. The first meeting in the building was on 2nd January 2022 and the gospel series in Spanish lasted for 8 weeks. We valued the help of Shad Kember the first weeks, and Jason Wahls, Duncan Beckett, Ross Vanstone and Tim Woodford in the weeks that followed. At the end of 8 weeks, we modified our schedule and continued in the gospel on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. In March, we began a Sunday School class for some young children attending with their family as well.



Meeting in the hall

After several months of meetings, two women told us they had understood that the Lord Jesus had died for their sins. By the end of August, about 10 different people had told us that they understood their sins were paid for because of the cross. What a joy! From that time, we began to include teaching for new believers along with the gospel, and we are thankful for every response to truth presented.

In May, I helped brother Kory Crawford for a few days in gospel outreach in Spanish in Loranger, Louisiana, where several Honduran believers live and desired that others would hear the gospel.

During a couple of weeks in July and August, it was a joy to visit the assembly in Veracruz, Mexico, where we lived from 2008-2020.

We are very thankful to have our daughter, Moriah, and two sons, David and Jacob here in San Antonio. Having been raised in Mexico, they are bilingual, and all 3 have been an ongoing blessing to the work here in many ways. In September, we began monthly, gospel focused Bible studies in English in Moriah's apartment, for a few of her personal contacts. In December, David graduated Nursing school in North Carolina, was offered a job and moved to San Antonio. Jacob is in High School, and has seen different teachers and students attend gospel meetings over these months.

We are planning a small distribution of 20,000 gospel texts and invitations in Spanish speaking areas of San Antonio in April, Lord willing, followed by a series in the gospel. We would greatly value your prayers for this effort, that more souls will be reached, believers will grow, and one day there might be an assembly established for the honour and glory of our Lord Jesus Christ in San Antonio, Texas.

We would also appreciate prayers for the assembly continuing faithfully in Veracruz, Mexico.

C. 2006

JOHN & REBEKAH NESBITT

6/3/23

Sunday 30th

BRAZIL



1 Chron 6

Lagoa Dourada

We have been busy with visits. Some of them we are unable to do every week because of the great demand for visits. We try to get back to each home at least once a fortnight. This month we would mention Alonsio and Jonatan (father and son). We visited them recently and as they live close by, we arranged for them to be both at Jonatan's house and so we got to read the Bible with both of them at the same time. They attend meetings regularly and are open to the Gospel but still not saved. Their wives are saved, and it would be a joy to see them saved also.

Also remember Joana, a sister that has a husband who is much against the Gospel. She has four adult children. Pamela shows interest in the Gospel, and we visit her and her husband Carlos regularly. Leticia is married and has two little girls. Pabline is in her early twenties and is living a wild life. We visited Joana's home and she was so pleased all three girls were there and listened to the message of salvation.

Children's work is encouraging. We are getting some children from the neighbourhood in and hope that through them we may reach their parents.

C. 1998

MARCO & JANICE GEBARA

2/3/23

C=Date of Commendation

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Total: £636,056.82

