



LOOK ON THE FIELDS

ITEMS FOR PRAYER AND PRAISE

With Daily Scripture Readings

*Note : The Look on the Fields is currently only available electronically.
We hope to refresh the publication and recommence printing soon.*

1ST

Jeremiah 51:25-64

IRELAND Pop. 4.8 Mil. UK 16 Bridgetown

In August I was with brother Paul Kissick in a series of drive-in Gospel meetings in a field in a townland called Cashel, up in the north of County Donegal. The visiting around the homes went well, and the attendance was encouraging. Each evening there were people in from the area, including some of whose identity we have no idea. In 2010, Priscilla's father (the late Gilbert Stewart), along with Sam Patterson and Harry Hunter, had a series in the mobile hall in the same field, and some people who came then, did so again this time. Both Sam and Harry have done a lot of work in that area over the years, and consequently they had a great interest in the series. Their poor health prevented greater involvement although Sam and Joan did get along on a couple of the evenings, and it was good to see them. We pray that the Lord will bless His Word that went forth, to the salvation of precious souls.

In October I hope, God willing, to be with brother Paul Kissick again, for three weeks of drive-in Gospel meetings in Letterkenny. It will be different from the meetings in Creeslough, being in a town with a large population, rather than a rural area. Before that I am to be with the assembly in Lapwing Way, Londonderry, for two weeks of ministry and Bible Readings. It is good that meetings in halls are increasingly taking place; indeed it was a joy to be able to be at the Larne conference at the end of August, after such a long time when such gatherings have not been happening.

Priscilla and I had hoped to visit Zambia this year, but the pandemic has rendered that out of the question in the meantime. There has been a recent change in government in Zambia. We pray that the transition will be peaceful and that the new administration will be able to get to grips with the real problems facing the country, and that the current freedom for Gospel outreach will continue.

C. 1992 8/9/21 DAVID & PRISCILLA MCALLISTER

2ND

Jeremiah 24 & 29

VENEZUELA Pop. 28.5 Mil. UK 7 Los Altos

After four months visiting Piñantal, we started meetings in El Manguito (between Los Altos and Zurita). Attendance was encouraging but after three weeks we had to move to the hall where we joined our fellow servant Mr. Julio Figuera (Margarita Island) and now Mr. Noel McKeown (who has returned from Valencia). A dear brother, Gabriel Guerra, has had the exercise to go every night in his old pickup and bring the neighbors from El Manguito to the meetings in the Hall in Los Altos. On Saturday after the gospel meeting, 18 brethren were baptized, including a

couple who got saved last year in El Manguito (there hadn't been baptisms in over two years due to pandemic restrictions). Later that day, Laura, a young girl who had shown much interest in the gospel since last year and during the three weeks in El Manguito, with a huge smile between her tears, said she had received the Lord, so it was a night of great joy in the assembly. Meetings continue and the brethren are much encouraged after so many months of restrictions. Some go out in the evenings to visit and invite the neighbors, some arrive early to make sure the hall is ready and attend the door with current prevention measures, while those with a vehicle help with transport. On nights with no power, the generator is set up so we have sound and lighting. As ever, we are reminded what a joint effort the Gospel work is and we continue to pray the Lord will add those that will be saved.

We feel the desire to return soon to Cumana so we are praying for that purpose. The pandemic and lack of fuel made it impossible to go last year but we have peace knowing God is still on the throne and He has allowed it that way. Two lovely sisters from the small group of believers there were called home to heaven due to the virus in the last couple of months. Mrs. Elvia Caraballo, a very faithful sister in her seventies who used to walk over an hour to attend meetings and little Elenys (20 years old), who was also diabetic since the age of 12, weren't able to overcome the virus. They were faithful, the Lord called them home, amidst the pain that is our comfort. Please continue to pray for the work in Venezuela.

C. 2018 (Ven) 4/9/21 PEDRO & LOIS MALAVE

3RD

Jeremiah 30

MEXICO Pop. 126 Mil. UK 4 Monterrey

Over the last two years, Acts 16:10 has been on our mind and exercise, seeking the Lord's guidance regarding our movements and ministry while we are attending the activities in the assembly and continuing the work of evangelizing in some cities of the metropolitan area of Monterrey. These included Guadalupe, Apocada and San Nicolas de los Garza. However, we came to the conclusion that for us, the Lord had not opened a new door to establish another work in these places, despite the large number of souls living in these areas.

On the other hand, we had been encouraged by some to go to other states of the country to help in the work, so we were also praying about it, seeking the Lord's guidance. During the pandemic we have made several trips to the city of Merida in the Yucatan Peninsula (extreme south of Mexico), having the opportunity to evangelise the city with tracts and conduct some Bible classes for children. This has enabled us to make contact with the local people. There are no assemblies in Yucatan as yet. So while we saw that God was not opening a new door to continue carrying out the pioneering work in Monterrey, we understood at this time He was working in our hearts to move us further. Consequently, we have rented a house in Merida and we have plan to move at the end of September, a journey by land of 1,400 miles, taking about 26 hours without stopping! However, we do plan to make several stops and visit some well-known brothers in various cities along the way.

We have mixed feelings, having worked in Monterrey for almost 6 years, where the grace of God worked in souls and in the formation of an assembly. However, at the same time we have expectations regarding the new field of work. The distances, the regions and the multiculturalism of Mexico makes us feel that we are going to a new country! Yucatan is the ancient domicile of the indigenous Mayas, Aztecs and Toltecas, where a large number

of their descendants can be seen with their traditions, pyramids and archaeological ruins, dialects and beliefs. Polytheism and Catholicism is well marked in these places.

We are very grateful for the time we have shared with Miguel and Ruth Mosquera and very satisfied that they remain attending the Work and assembly in Monterray and for whom we will continue to pray. We will appreciate your prayers for our journey and move, for our children and their new adaptation and especially for the Lord's Work in the state of Yucatan.

C. 2014 30/8/21 ANDERSON & MARIU HERNANDEZ

4TH

Jeremiah 31

SCOTLAND Pop. 5.5 Mil. Aberdeenshire

We are excited that once again the Lord opened the way for 261 Primary 7 pupils in our local area to receive a copy of the Bible in an easy-to-read format. Each year He has been faithful both in providing the Bibles and in opening doors. We rejoice that a school who have not recently accepted the Bibles requested around 64 copies this year! Please pray with us that when they are read, the Lord will speak clearly through His eternal Word to the young souls. We are resting in the fact that Isaiah 55:11 says 'My word... shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it'. It is amazing that for the last 10 years the Lord has allowed His powerful Word to be distributed in this way!

We had the privilege of sharing some parables of the Lord Jesus with the staff and pupils in some local schools. This has been such a blessing to me as the schools have slowly started to allow visitors back, but not as yet inside the school buildings. I delivered some of the lessons outdoors in the school playground and others were viewed online. Please pray that the wonderful words of the Lord Jesus Himself will spring up to eternal life.

I have been meeting weekly with a man who has recently come to faith in Christ and has had his life positively changed. He had attended a Christianity Explored course a number of years ago, where he learned about salvation, but hadn't actually trusted the Lord. A few months ago the penny finally dropped and he took the step of faith required to have all his sins forgiven once and for all. It is a privilege to be able to help and strengthen him each week in his brand-new faith. We have been studying John's Gospel together and his appreciation of the Lord Jesus is growing steadily.

16/9/21

GRAEME & FIONA SMITH

5TH

Jeremiah 27 & 28

SRI LANKA Pop. 21 Mil. Writing from N Ireland

Sri Lanka has been plunged into another lockdown during the month of August 2021. Hospitals started to spill over again as the covid death rate and infection rate were spiralling out of control. Consequently, the government had to impose a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week curfew for the entire country. The economy that was already in the doldrums because of the covid induced lockdowns is facing a further battering. The currency has depreciated sharply during the last couple of months resulting in a steep rise in the prices of essential items, including drugs.

The believers in Kuliypitiya, who are mostly poultry farmers, are struggling with a shortage of feed and a sharp rise in costs. During the month of August there was no gas available in the island. Long queues were seen at fuel stations as there were shortages of petrol and diesel. Because of a foreign exchange

crisis in the island, importers were unable to import essential food items and there was a shortage in the market of sugar, milk powder, tinned fish, lentils and flour. A brother from the east coast mentioned that none of these items could be found in any shop in the entire Eastern Province.

The 4 million daily wage earners in the island, who were already in poverty, are facing a bleak future. Many of the believers are caught up in this crisis and are unable to feed their families. Locked into their homes and unable to work has resulted in depression setting in some of them. Some of the believers have even lost a considerable amount of body weight due to food shortages.

Despite all the negative news there are several positive items that we can thank God for. Work for God is continuing to be done and souls are being saved. The construction of the new hall in Jaffna has now been completed. The assembly in Jaffna started meeting in the new hall in July but had to close again due to the nationwide curfew that was imposed in August. The assembly in Kurunagela has also completed the construction of the hall. They have not been able to meet in this hall as yet as they are waiting for the electricity connection.

8/9/21

CHARLES DAVIDSON (N Ireland)

6TH

Jeremiah 21 & 34

SRI LANKA Pop. 21 Mil. Writing from N Ireland

Before the lockdown in August there was good news from Vaddavan on the east coast of Sri Lanka. A Hindu man by the name of Tharan, a 33 year old father of two children, was saved. At the beginning of the month of July, during a discussion with two of the brothers in the assembly, he confessed that he was a broken sinner and he asked them 'what must I do to be saved?'. The brothers explained the simple steps to him and then and there, he prayed with them repenting of his sins and he invited the Lord Jesus Christ to take control of his life. He has faced great opposition from his Hindu family members since he took this step and has now been ostracized by his own family. Much prayer is needed for this new believer that he will not wilt under the pressure that he is facing. Aylwasari who is 28 years old was also saved and baptized in July 2021.

We thank God for such good news despite all the lockdowns and curfews. We thank God also that many who have moved into farming since the advent of the pandemic have been helped in Sri Lanka. Many people have lost their employment and livelihoods as a result of the constant lockdowns. Several of these people that have lost jobs have started farming in their home gardens. They have been helped by providing farming tools, equipment, seeds and other needed items. Yields are low at present as the government has banned the import of fertilizer to stop the drain of precious foreign currency from the island. However, the farmers are improvising by manufacturing organic fertilizer.

8/9/21

CHARLES DAVIDSON (N Ireland)

7TH

Jeremiah 37

BOTSWANA Pop. 2.4 Mil. UK 8 Writing from the UK

Christine and I are writing this from the UK where we are on a ten week visit, following the homecall of Christine's sister, Elaine, who was married to my brother David. We have also been able to meet and spend time with our latest grandchild, Eric James, who is now ten months old – we hadn't been able to see him until now because of the pandemic restrictions. We have been seeking

to help the saints in the Prestwich Assembly here in Manchester (one of our commending assemblies) with ministry and Bible studies while we are here.

We are thankful that in Palapye, we've been able to have the 4 meetings per week which we are restricted to since the initial lockdown about 18 months ago, but long to get back to full assembly activities, including Sunday School, Bible Class, Children's Meetings and outreach in the schools.

Prayer would be valued that the thousands of children and young people who have not had the privilege of hearing the Word of God week by week as they were previously, will soon be able to do so. Thankfully, the saints in Serowe have been continuing to use the Sunday School Lessons by post over the past months, so many children have been receiving those lessons throughout Botswana.

C. 1991 20/9/21 COLIN & CHRISTINE RAGGETT

8TH

Jeremiah 32:1-25

FRANCE Pop. 67 Mil. UK 40 Nantes

Schools have opened up once more here after the summer break and yet today it is 34° outside! During much of July and August the weather in these parts was not what one could hope for, but we are definitely making up for it now!

Thank you for remembering the ongoing ministry of the bookshop here in Nantes. Sales kept up much as usual over the summer period and we were thankful to have had enough staff, all voluntary, to keep the shop open throughout the summer. At the end of August we sent up several boxes of books and Bibles to the Christian camp centre at St Lunaire in Brittany where a camp was being held for young adults, combining Bible teaching with sporting activities. We were quite amazed at how many books were sold and now we pray that the young folks will indeed use them to become more grounded in their faith.

As a new season starts up once more, we are much before the Lord for His wisdom to know how best to reach out around us. This coming week we have a special week of prayer, with early morning prayer sessions for those who are up bright and early and then an evening meeting each night also. We value prayer that many will attend and that we may move forward together, in dependence on the Lord.

We are thankful for several new families who have joined us over the past few months. We would like to see them taking an active part in assembly life. We value prayer for this, so that each one may bring his or her help according to the gifts given for building up the others.

C. 1985/88 8/9/21 GERRY & DOROTHY SEED

9TH

Jeremiah 32:26-44

ANGOLA Pop. 32 Mil. UK 4 Writing from Canada

Thank you to each one who prayed for my recent visit to Angola. I did not know if I would be allowed into the country with an expired visa, so I did not go with a planned itinerary. Thankfully, I was allowed into Angola without difficulty and the Lord clearly ordered my days there. I spent 10 days in quarantine on arrival, and the day after that ended, I started the 20 hour drive from Luanda to Biula.

The main purpose of the trip was to renew visas for Elizabeth and myself, and it was remarkable how God worked out the details. It is usually a complicated, time-consuming process, but without

any arranging on my part, others submitted our applications while I was in quarantine, my visa was approved, and my passport returned before my time in Angola ended. This was a tremendous answer to prayer. Elizabeth's visa was not approved as she was not in country, but we accept this as God's plan for now.

En route to Biula I stopped in Saurimo where I spent time with Teofilo, the nurse who was taken from working at the Biula clinic last October when the government reassigned him to a major city hospital. Elizabeth and I feel that the Lord wants us to continue investing in him even if he is not working in Biula at this time, and he has submitted an application for advanced nursing training that we will partly sponsor. Presently, it appears that it will be years before there is a possibility of him being transferred back to Biula. He has a spiritual burden for the Lord's work in his home village, and we pray that one day he may be able to return to be a blessing there.

C. 2012 (Can) 7/9/21

SAMUEL & ELIZABETH SIMONE-GINDELE

10TH

Jeremiah 33

ANGOLA Pop. 32 Mil. UK 4 Writing from Canada

When I arrived home in Biula, I found everything had been well cared for by faithful brothers in the year we have been away. There was a period when they worked for several months without pay before I found a way to get money to them, and they told me stories of the local police chief and others marvelling at them working daily despite this.

Word of my arrival spread quickly, so I was busy in the clinic in the few days I dedicated to working there. People turned up at the house in the evening with wounds that Elizabeth would have usually dealt with. I had some interesting ones ranging from severe hot water burns to a bullet that had gone into a fellow's back from behind and worked its way towards the skin in his chest so I could remove it surgically. Corintios and Lucia, the clinic staff, continue serving faithfully.

I brought medical supplies in my luggage and purchased medicine in Luanda to resupply the clinic. The price of medication in Luanda at a bulk store was shocking. While in Saurimo, I visited two other clinics, and nurses in both asked me if I could help supply them with medications as they receive none from the government. This is a major issue in Angola as people typically walk away from a medical consultation with a prescription but no accessible or affordable source of medication.

The care I received from the people of Biula during my stay was touching. I received many gifts of food from people's fields like peanuts, beans, manioc root, cabbage leaves and bottles of wild honey. These were gifts from people living in poverty, sharing their food supply or only source of income with me. Prices have at least tripled in the past year, so many people are suffering from hunger and common necessities like cooking oil have become a luxury item for most.

I spent the 3 weeks I had in Biula getting up at dawn to attend the daily Bible reading with the local church, doing maintenance jobs on the mission when I wasn't in the clinic, and visiting with believers and others at their homes. One morning was spent hauling mud blocks in the nearby town of Dala for a house construction so some of the young men from Biula will have a place to live and attend high school in the coming year.

C. 2012 (Can) 7/9/21

SAMUEL & ELIZABETH SIMONE-GINDELE

11TH

Jeremiah 38

ANGOLA Pop. 32 Mil. UK 4 Writing from Canada

I was able to visit Drs. Juan and Adriana Palacios, Argentinian missionary doctors who run a large clinic in Luena about an hour from Biula. I worked with them in the clinic for three days, and it was sobering to see and hear of many Covid cases, though there were not enough tests to confirm this diagnosis. Like many other parts of the world, there is tremendous fear of this pandemic, but there were no vaccines available while I was there. Please pray for workers like the Palacios who put their lives on the line to help others in resource-poor settings. It was a time of rich fellowship with them and deeply encouraging for me to witness their service for the Lord.

Mutondo Masaha, my Zambian friend who is a missionary living about 300 kilometres away to the east in Angola, rode overnight on the back of a loaded truck over a horrible road to come and see me for one day before returning via the same route 36 hours later. We have known each other since 2005 and are long-time friends and fellow-workers in the gospel. Please pray for the work that he and his wife Florence are involved in. Mutondo oversees a midwife-run clinic in a very challenging setting. We share a common burden for training and mentoring young men to teach the Word of God and serve practically in their communities, so please pray that God will guide as we prayerfully make plans to facilitate this work together.

I hope to make a return trip in January, God willing. It was announced in the Angolan news this past week that those who are fully Covid vaccinated will no longer need to quarantine on arrival in the country. It is on my heart to conduct Bible teaching sessions and perhaps mobile clinics in future visits, but please pray that the Lord will guide my plans as He did for this trip.

C. 2012 (Can) 7/9/21

SAMUEL & ELIZABETH SIMONE-GINDELE

12TH

Jeremiah 39

ROMANIA Pop. 19.5 Mil. UK 4 Ploiesti

With the Lord's wonderful help, this is the 14th year of using tents. Generally speaking this summer, we have not been affected by new Covid cases and restrictions like we experienced last year. Gospel meetings commenced in May and to-date, tents have been pitched in 80 villages and towns in 17 Counties throughout Romania, and also in three places in the neighbouring country of the Republic of Moldova. Football stadiums, believers' gardens, car parks, the grounds of gospel halls, parks, private and public land, and even a former rubbish tip (in Vetis, County of Satu Mare), have been used for the tents. The gospel has been clearly presented to many people inside and outside the tents.

Over 12,000 children attended the meetings in the tents and over 10,000 people (saved and unsaved) came into the tents to listen to the gospel; others near the tents listened via the loudspeaker system in their gardens, along the side of roads, etc. In some places between 200 and 300 people have come to tent meetings! Good numbers of people have been saved especially in the Counties of Suceava and Hunedoara.

Also, it has been most encouraging to hear of people saved in past years in tent meetings being baptised by immersion and then being received into fellowship in the local assembly. Large quantities of gospel tracts and booklets have been distributed and prayer is much appreciated for this expanding gospel work.

Our prayer is that unbelievers who have listened to the gospel and read gospel literature will not say: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended and we are not saved" (Jeremiah 8:20).

A few years ago the assembly in Vatra Dornei, County of Suceava, closed. The Sovereign Lord has called a young couple to work in the town and seek to reopen the local assembly. I was able to deliver a tent to help in the work and it has been used for children's meetings and also on the Lord's day. Please pray for their encouragement and for the work of the Lord in Romania and Moldova.

C. 1992 8/9/21

PAUL & SUE WILLIAMS

13TH

Jeremiah 40

BRAZIL Pop. 214 Mil. UK 20 Vitoria

Cátia, the wife of one of our Brazilian colleagues, Jabesmar, is having treatment for cancer. She shows great courage and confidence in the Lord. She has still six sessions of chemotherapy and this will be followed by radiotherapy. An older sister, Dona Ednair, has suffered intensely as she faced the same treatment, but she has received encouraging news, and it is to be hoped that she will not need to return to hospital. Today, our daughter-in-law received news that her surgery has been scheduled for 20th September. Only after surgery will she know if the nodule is cancerous. As we write we have been informed that Roberta, the wife of another Brazilian colleague has caught the Covid virus. Please pray that Emerson and their two children, Sara and Marcos will remain free of the virus.

Luiza is three years old and was born with certain physical deficiencies. The doctors said that she would never walk or lead a normal life. Her father and mother, Leandro and Alessandra were terribly upset, but Luiza's problems have strengthened their faith and led them to have a closer walk with the Lord. Their faith in the Lord and His purposes is strong and God has answered their and our prayers. Luiza now walks, if still with an awkward gait. She still faces more surgery and we would appreciate your prayers.

The pandemic has interrupted our visitation program. We have been advised to keep distance from homes in case we infect some of our friends and to prevent ourselves being infected. This is a ministry we treasured, especially visiting the aged community and bringing cheer to their hearts. Hopefully, things will soon improve and we will be able to resume this important ministry in the near future.

C. 1966 2/9/21 WALTER & ELIZABETH ALEXANDER

14TH

Jeremiah 41

MIDDLE EAST Emmaus Courses

It has been a long hot summer here in Israel and we have had yet another surge of Covid throughout the country. However, it has mostly affected the younger generation and so the number of serious cases and deaths is not as high as previous waves. We thank the Lord for His protection of all staff and Emmaus Middle East volunteers from the virus and for the efficient vaccination programme here in Israel. This means we have been able to work as usual in the office.

The shipment of books and courses from the UK has arrived and we are ready to distribute them. They include 5 Bible stories for children and courses on Acts and Ephesians, as well as a course on Managing Anger God's Way. Two believers are continuing

to record courses and daily devotions for social media and the radio, which is broadcasting them twice weekly.

At the end of July we held a four-day Kids Camp, with about 35 children attending. We also did a follow up two hour climb at the end of the holidays and most of them attended. This helped to reinforce the Bible lessons and memory verses. We gifted them some of the new Bible story books and we plan to make personal visits to the families in the coming weeks. We are now planning a 2-day camp at Christmas.

Please continue to pray for the dire economic and political situation in Lebanon. They are suffering huge shortages of basic items such as foodstuff, electricity, water, medicine and gas. Thank the Lord that the believers in Jordan can now meet again. Pray that the courses can resume distribution. Pray also that a large consignment of books due to go to Jordan, is able to be transported from Egypt, where it is stuck at present. Ports are now starting to work on the backlog which has built up due to the pandemic.

15/9/21

GEORGE & ROS KHALIL

15TH

Jeremiah 42 & 43

BOLIVIA Pop. 11.5 Mil. UK 2 Cochabamba

We have been so grateful for all your prayers for us during this time. Many of our church family had covid 19; most of them recovered but sad to say, some went home to be with the Lord at an early age. The situation is better at the moment, but in saying that, the hospitals are still full. We had a visit from one of our young doctors from the church who was attending Covid patients. He is going to Argentina to specialize on child surgery. He will be gone for five years. We just pray that Jonathan will be a blessing there. Another young girl, Rebeca, has just graduated in medicine as well. She is very involved in the young folks meeting. Her mum had cancer and last week she too went to be with the Lord; Ruth was only in her fifties. Ruth's dad died of Covid 19 last year so it's hard for Rebeca, losing her mum and grandfather within a short time. I think Rebeca will go to Brazil to specialise, as her uncle is a top surgeon there.

We would like you to continue to pray for the couple who went through a really hard time. Patty's mum, dad, brother and two uncles all died of Covid 19. Patty's husband, Alejandro, is a doctor. He was in intensive care too but glad to say he recovered but his lungs have been affected. They have gone to live in a small village which is a four-hour drive from Cochabamba. They are in the process of building a house there with a doctor's surgery and a room for meetings. Now they just want to serve the Lord. Alejandro feels much better there. Cochabamba is the most contaminated city in Bolivia.

C. 1977 13/9/21

MARIO & HELEN PONCE

16TH

Jeremiah 44

BOLIVIA Pop. 11.5 Mil. UK 2 Cochabamba

Do remember the ladies who have been released from prison. It's so hard for them. Pray especially for Blanca and Fumico as they are going through a very difficult time. I've spent time with them, but none of them are well and they are also not able to work. They are just so grateful that we are able to help them in some way. God is so good and despite their situation, their faith is strong.

We have a team of young people who are preparing bags of

groceries again for our families who are struggling because of Covid19. Many have lost their jobs. We are so blessed with believers who are so loving and caring and they really look out for each other.

Please pray for our ex-president, Janine Annez. She has been in prison about 9 months unjustly. She is not well and in deep depression. She is a believer, and it breaks our heart to see her on TV. She can hardly walk.

We still have all our meetings online and some on Zoom. It's still amazing the number of people who listen in, that would never come to church. Our ladies have a group on WhatsApp. I send a devotion every day, together we are in close contact encouraging each other. It's good to know our times are in God's hands and we are secure in Him.

C. 1977 13/9/21

MARIO & HELEN PONCE

17TH

Jeremiah 52

UKRAINE Pop. 44 Mil. UK 4 Lviv

We recently visited the gypsies deep in the forest, outside the town of Sosnevska. Once we had gathered all the families together and got the children organized in a reasonable order, which is very difficult, we proceeded to share the Gospel. The meeting was just outside one of their homemade plastic covered houses, and beside a tree. It seemed appropriate, therefore, to begin by telling them the wonderful story of Zacchaeus, about the seeking sinner and the seeking Saviour, with the joyful result of salvation. We were thankful for the rapt attention and we leave the results with God. We then distributed food, clothes and gospel literature.

C. 2010 2/9/21

EDMUND & AGNES JOHNSTON

18TH

Lamentations 1

BOTSWANA Pop. 2.4 Mil. UK 8 Gaborone

Despite the constraints of the pandemic in terms of normal assembly activity, one of the blessings has been to see the flourishing of mutual love and care among the believers. We have become more prayerful concerning one another and many have risen to the occasion in supporting their fellow believers in practical ways – phone calls, provision of food, purchase of medicines etc. Many believers in the assembly have been infected with the virus; several have been bereaved of their loved ones. The weekly meetings using Zoom have yielded encouraging ministry from the brethren. We have tried to keep reaching out with the Gospel in the open-air work and tract distribution. The open-air preaching is conducted on a solo basis, remaining in the vehicle and using a loudspeaker through the open window. For the tract distribution, instead of entering the gates and yards of people's homes as we used to do, we greet them in the street and offer them literature.

Hazel became unwell several months ago after receiving her first vaccination. She required hospitalisation and a significant heart problem was diagnosed. Then, our sister Joy, and ourselves, have all contracted Covid-19 in more recent weeks. Despite a number of rocky days and nights, we are so grateful to the Lord that we have come through the illness so far. It will take some time for us to regain our strength. Thank you for all your prayers.

C. 1982 2/8/21

CLARK & HAZEL LOGAN

INDIA Pop. 1,370 Mil. UK 3 Chennai

The pandemic crisis opened up an opportunity to reach out to the people in need with practical assistance and thus displaying the love of God to them. The activities included the distribution of Ration bags and food supplies to 7,500 families and food supplies to migrant workers.

We praise God that although there were great challenges to the medical department of the Bethany Health Care Centre and its functioning after the completion of lockdown, we were able to keep the hospital free from any virus. By mid-year we were able to return to the earlier patient flow of nearly 150 patients a day.

Our Soup Kitchen provides a daily hot meal for 180 elderly people and destitute in five slum and needy areas in the city. We praise God that we also reached approximately 250 families in three leper colonies, Bethel Nagar, Indira Nagar and Calvary Nagar. We provided rations every month and a skill development training programme in handcrafts for women who are affected by leprosy but not infected. We also provided online tuition classes for children.

I myself need your prayers as I suffer a lot of pain because of the spine operations I had and the pulling of the nerves. Some days it is okay, and then some days it is very bad. But I am blessed at 82 to be able to come down to the Office most days and answer the correspondence I receive. I also hope that I encourage others. I thank you for standing with me in prayer and for praying for CMCT (Christian Missions Charitable Trust).

Corona Virus is quite bad in India and the number with Covid19 is quite alarming, with daily news coverage highlighting the extent of the suffering and the medical and economic consequences. We have had a few of our staff not well. All our staff in CMCT have now had their vaccinations.

Our Schools have started from the beginning of this month for the 9th to 12th grades. We pray that because they have started school, the older children will not get Corona Virus. Please pray along with us.

C. 1964 (New Zealand) 15/9/21 COLLEEN REDIT

ZAMBIA Pop. 18 Mil. UK 40 Writing from Scotland

The news from Mambilima is encouraging. Last weekend they held a conference at Mambilima for the assemblies in the surrounding area. It was a time of blessing when the Word of the Lord was preached. On Lord's day they also had a baptismal service in the river, where a number were baptised. They all enjoyed the time of fellowship.

Also last Saturday there was a bad road accident nearby and a number of casualties were brought into the hospital, which kept them busy. The staff are doing well.

The schools are almost back to normal and we give thanks for preservation during Covid. The primary school minibus has given great service but is now needing replaced. It is good to have access to education for children who, because of their disabilities, would otherwise be shunned. Great also to have the liberty to teach the scriptures. We are privileged to know the blessing of the Lord as we work with Him.

C. 1996/74 1/9/21 ROBERT & MARGARET MUIR

ROMANIA Pop. 19.5 Mil. UK 4 Ploiesti

Since writing our last Newsletter, so much has happened! While driving back to Casa Luca, an engine valve broke and fell into the cylinder block of the minibus, causing irreparable damage. Although the original estimate for a replacement engine was almost the cost of a second hand bus, after praying and committing the situation into the Lord's hands, we decided it would be better to replace the engine rather than buy another vehicle which could have an unseen history, where the same thing could happen again. But we have a great and faithful God, who knows what we need before we even ask Him. Before we collected the repaired bus last Thursday, without advertising the need we had, the Lord had moved various believers to almost cover the entire cost. Isn't God good!

Having seen the need for more bedrooms in Casa Luca for cancer patients, we are considering renovating the former Dental Surgery building and schoolroom into more rooms and apartments for those wanting to stay. Prayer for this possible development would be appreciated.

For this last month we have had eleven souls staying at Casa Luca, three of them wives of cancer patients. Two couples have also been staying through the weekend as they live too far away to keep going home and coming back again. Please pray that wisdom will be given in our conversation and that the Lord will bless those staying in Casa Luca.

C. 2002 5/9/21 TIM & JENNY GOODING

FRANCE Pop. 67 Mil. UK 40 Meyzieu

This summer, Brigitte and I were involved in camp work in Brittany. We were both helpers; Brigitte also looked after the laundry of the 120 campers, and I was the speaker for the first week. As in the past, many people asked to speak to us, needing prayer. Some people had professional issues to talk over, however, the majority had spiritual issues that they wanted to pray about.

The camp, for all ages, is always a real blessing. It is great to see some people come back year after year and growing in the Lord. Whereas other people came for the first time. The children are well looked after by a committed team of leaders and love the Bible teaching, the sea and the various activities that can be done.

Since we came back home two weeks ago, we have been busy printing Emmaus courses. In July, an elder from a local church came to see, wanting to buy two copies of each course. We have 46 in all. This order nearly emptied our whole stock, as we only print two or three copies at a time. Our printer has thus been doing overtime for the past few days, but it seems to be coping!

Over the next three months, I will be preaching every Sunday, sometimes in our local assembly or in other churches between 15 and 300 miles away. I have also been asked to help and teach some new elders in local churches. When I am invited to do this, I am asked to teach on a number of subjects varying from doctrinal, ethical, practical or even legal topics. Church elders in France need to know the law concerning church activities. These laws have changed in recent years and are likely to change again in the near future. Please continue to pray for our work here in France.

C. 1980/84 3/9/21 DAVID & BRIGITTE SUTHERLAND

23RD

Ezekiel 2:1 to 3:15

N. IRELAND Pop. 1.8 Mil.

These have been strange times and are likely to have a lasting effect upon us all.

During the last 12 months I have been engaged in teaching and preaching at drive-in meetings. I was glad to be able to join various assemblies around the world via the Zoom network for the encouragement of the saints through the teaching of the word of God.

During the last school term I was asked to speak via Zoom to several schools to present Bible lessons to the children. I was also invited into one school for a week to take in-person Bible lessons. We were able to take the children outside for the chorus singing and then to teach the Bible lessons inside a large assembly hall in the school. Thankfully a few in-person gospel meetings and children's series are beginning again. Please pray for guidance and the Lord's help as further opportunities arise in the future, God willing.

C. 2003 21/8/21 LESLIE & MARION CRAIG

24TH

Ezekiel 3:16 to 4:17

ETHIOPIA Pop. 112 Mil. UK 4 Writing from Scotland

The news from Ethiopia is mixed. In June they had elections in most areas and Dr Abey had a very large majority. There were some provinces where there was conflict that did not have an election; this will take place later this month.

In the meantime, the Prime Minister withdrew the government troops and offered a peace treaty, but the Tigre province refused it and said it was all false. Added to that they have moved into two neighbouring states and tried to cause unrest by murders and insurrection.

There has been a response by the Ethiopian government and the Tigre's have lost all the ground they had gained. One prominent commander has given himself up to the Ethiopian army. He says that many of the soldiers are slipping back to their farms and much ground has been lost. Do pray for peace to come to Ethiopia. Pray that the UK and America will see the true state of affairs and act accordingly.

C. 1969 2/9/21 ROBERT REVIE

25TH

Ezekiel 5 & 6

ZAMBIA Pop. 18 Mil. UK 40 Loloma

As always, we appreciate your ongoing thoughts, prayers and encouragement, especially as we draw so close to the time of our transition to the United States. We have just over 2 weeks remaining here at Loloma, planning to leave on Tuesday the 28th of this month, so that God willing we will fly from Lusaka on Friday the 1st of October and arrive in Philadelphia on Saturday the 2nd.

It is with joy and much thanksgiving to the Lord that we confirm that the Anderson family have arrived safely at Loloma. They have been here for just over a week, and are settling in well. Tim and David travelled to Lusaka to meet them at the airport. They then had a couple of days together in Lusaka to get maintenance items, medicines for the hospital and also to take Steven Anderson to the Immigration Offices so that he could collect their immigration permit. They left Lusaka last Tuesday for the long journey back to Loloma. Despite the 15 hour drive,

the four young children did very well, happy to see a little bit of wildlife when passing through the game park. Steven and Stephanie will greatly value your prayers as they settle into the new life and work that God has for them here.

God willing next week, Tim, Steven and some local brothers will go for a 5-day outreach in a real Lunda area, which is about 4 hours drive away from Loloma, near to the Angolan border. We pray that this will be a blessing to many in that area and also a special time for Steven. He will be able to experience for himself the great spiritual freedom and opportunities that we have here in Zambia, and also start to immerse himself in the Lunda language. Your prayers are greatly valued for that time, as they plan to move through 4 different village areas, including times of teaching and encouragement for the believers in the different assemblies there.

C. 1997 11/9/21 TIMOTHY & JOY BEER

26TH

Ezekiel 7

ZAMBIA Pop. 18 Mil. UK 40 Loloma

We are thankful to confirm that the number of Covid cases in the country have reduced, partly because we are now into our hot season.

Last week on Saturday we were invited to a farewell that was arranged by many young people from the area, and also others who used to be here in the past. It was very touching, and we really appreciated listening to their different testimonies as to how the Lord has worked in their lives. There was also a time for spiritual encouragement from one of the bible teachers in this area, and then for us to also pass on some final words to them.

We would also mention some prayer needs for the Lord's work here, as others continue to labour for the Lord in these important ways. The weekly village and hospital outreach opportunities, the gospel radio program each Thursday afternoon, the regular visitation of the assemblies in the area, the responsibility of the village for the elderly, and the many practical and maintenance issues that come with the hospital and other mission responsibilities. God is always faithful to His work, and so our prayer is that He will continue to touch the lives of many people throughout this area. He is the one who is building His church.

We close with our thanks, as always, for your thoughts and prayers for us and the work of the Lord throughout this area of Zambia, along with our transition to a new life in the States. C. 1997 11/9/21 TIMOTHY & JOY BEER

27TH

Ezekiel 8 & 9

SOUTH AFRICA Pop. 58 Mil. UK 7 Umtentweni

We thank God for sparing us and our community in the recent unrest in our province. However, just over a week ago, a couple in our locality were viciously murdered in broad daylight in their own home. They were well known to us, indeed the wife attended our gospel meetings for quite a long time some years ago, and also a Bible study we hold each fortnight, when Covid-19 restrictions permit. She seemed to show an interest in spiritual things but never made a profession of faith in Christ. Her husband was very opposed to the gospel, but we have learned that his sister is a believer. We pray for a son and daughter, both unsaved.

Truly, we know not what a day may bring forth (Prov. 27:1).

Thank you for your faithfulness in remembering us before the throne of grace. C. 1968 6/9/21 PAUL & DOROTHY GRIEVE

BRAZIL Pop. 214 Mil. UK 20 Sapucaia

Our brother Roberto Ploia and I are in our 3rd week of gospel meetings in Candelária using the gospel hall as our meeting place. It is 18 months since the small assembly there has had a meeting, so we decided to try to get them reactivated. The meetings are small, but we usually have 10 or more unsaved adults present nightly. Please pray that this effort, besides being a help to the saints, will be to the salvation of many local people.

Seeing that the 7th of September is a national holiday in Brazil, the brethren in Porto Alegre are arranging a Zoom meeting for the ministry of the Word in the afternoon with a gospel and testimony meeting at night. Please pray that this will be to the blessing of many.

C. 1992 4/9/21 LINDSAY & BETH CARSWELL

ZAMBIA Pop. 18 Mil. UK 40 Kitwe

News from those with whom we served is largely encouraging. From Portugal it was thrilling to hear from a couple whom we knew many years ago. He was a young medical doctor. His wife gave us some lessons in Portuguese. It was so good to hear that her parents have trusted Christ after being hostile for years. They have worked hard reaching out with the Gospel in a new area and the Lord has wonderfully blessed their witness so that they can have almost 200 present on a Sunday morning – pre-Covid.

From Angola, we heard just two days ago that a young man who was greatly helped by our dear friend, the late Ruth Hadley, is going on well for the Lord and keenly interested in witnessing to others.

From Zambia, this third wave of CV19 has been much worse than the earlier ones. Several elders with whom we worked have died leaving grieving widows. These were older stable good men who are not easily replaced. We pray for the younger men that they may stay on course and be a blessing in their assemblies.

The student Bible studies have all been suspended as the universities and colleges were compulsorily closed, so we pray that as the situation improves, they may recommence, so that many students may come to know the Saviour and go on to witness for Him. We thank the Lord that the August elections in Zambia went off smoothly.

We need the Lord's help as we keep on trying to get to know and establish good relationships with our neighbours. Lockdown has made that more difficult. We look to the Lord for the right openings to explain the simplicity of the Gospel.

This incoming week we plan to meet up with second cousins of Eric for the first time since they were children. Both were raised as Roman Catholics, so we pray that we may establish good relationships and that they may read the literature offered. Both are highly educated, one teaches at university level but they both need the Lord.

C. 1986 6/9/21 ERIC & MARGARET MCCAUGHREN

DEM. REP. OF CONGO 86 Mil. UK 3 Katoka

We arrived safely back at Katoka on 14th September after four months in the UK. How thankful I am to God for His safekeeping and being kept free from Covid. It was wonderful to catch up with family and friends, even though initially it was picnics in the garden. The long journey back to Katoka was good. I was delighted to discover that God has continued to protect this area of DR Congo, there still being no known cases of Covid here in Katoka. The morning after I arrived back I was given a quick tour to see the changes that had taken place since I left. Solar panels have been added to our house, hospital and school and several water towers have been installed – all very impressive.

I was also encouraged to see that the work at the new school was progressing. The workers were in fine form and seemed very motivated. Encouraged too by the gift of desks for the school from one of the members of parliament.

We also praise God for the good news about Daniella's progress since the surgery on her head in Lusaka. Please pray for me as I settle in once more to the work here in Katoka.

C. 1965 20/9/21 MARY RATTER

BRAZIL Pop. 214 Mil. UK 20 Writing from Wales

Due to Dorothy's health problems, it has not been possible to visit Brazil since November 2018. However, we are in constant contact with the saints there through email and WhatsApp. A young brother who serves the Lord in Santarem, on the banks of the Amazon river, Sergio Rodriguez, has been in contact recently. He has been able to start gospel work in a new housing area and many are showing an interest. In the State of Sao Paulo ('our' part of Brazil!), believers are beginning to meet again, but with many restrictions. Brother Alexandre Torres spoke to us recently and painted a sad picture of the current situation. However, he has recently spent time distributing literature in Manaus, in the Amazon region, along with John and Claudette Axford. He was encouraged by the 'open doors' in schools and prisons.

We are very thankful to have the privilege of translation work, which has been able to continue when all else has come to a standstill. In our current projects, we are now working on Chapter 40 of John Riddle's Commentary on Isaiah and have finished the first draft of the 5th volume of Alan Summer's Bible Class Notes (for use in Angola).

C. 1985 16/9/21 TERRY & DOROTHY BLACKMAN

C=Date of Commendation UK=Missionaries (approx.)

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