

Dear friends and Family,

We are coming down to the end of one year and in looking back there have been many changes. The world is still shaking economically and politically and there are signs everywhere that Jesus is coming soon.

2008 has been a year of milestones for us as Gwen and I both hit the "Big 50", and we also celebrated our 25th anniversary. It has also been 25 years since we took our first pastorate position in Fort Erie, Ontario. So it has been a year of "reflection" in many ways.

Our family has also been shaken a bit over the last few weeks. At the end of October it was discovered that Gwen has thyroid cancer. This came as quite a shock to us of course, but the doctors were quite confident that it could all be caught. We prayed for healing with faith, but also arranged an operation which took place on Dec. 18th. Gwen was out in 2 days and is recovering well. After the operation the doctors were very positive about full recovery. She will have to take radioactive iodine treatment for 3 days after the new year which is supposed to catch any remaining cancerous cells. Thanks to all those who prayed for us during this time.

My schedule has been a challenge to balance home life and ministry travel as this year has felt like a year living on wheels. I have been on a lot of international trips, starting in Italy, Ukraine (3 times), Israel, Australia, Latvia, a 2 week trip to Far East Russia, (where we also prayed on the border of China), France, Germany, Denmark and England. We also took multiple meetings on behalf of Partners in Harvest in Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and the surrounding American states. Although at times it feels the travel has been a lot we are seeing the Kingdom advance and relationships strengthened with each trip. God is creating that huge net for the final harvest of souls which He promised in the end days.

I also just returned from India where I helped lead a 5 day Leaders School for 300. Approximately 150 of the students were under 25. I feel as if I have finally seen the True Joshua generation. One hour before I was to leave home for the airport for Mumbai the news came about the Mumbai terrorists attacks. I phoned our leader, John Arnott, and his response was, "take the hill". The Lord protected our teams as we had over 100 people doing 10 schools in 10 different Indian cities. After the schools we were able to visit some of the sights that the terrorists attacked and pray. We saw the bullet holes and effects of the grenades, and stood in spots where people died. Please remember our Indian brothers and sisters, especially from the state of Orissa, who are under severe persecution from Hindu radicals.

Our children are all increasingly spreading their own wings. Daniel (23) is in his last year of Tyndale

University where he is taking a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies program and is in charge of the worship for student chapels. He plans to take a year off and work and then possibly go on to get a Master of Divinity in a "healthy" seminary somewhere. He seems to have found his niche in the Christian academic world, surrounded by books, Greek and Hebrew. He is not isolating himself, though, as he is also working part-time in a homeless shelter in downtown Toronto where he mainly takes the night shift and touches the reality of sin and the promise of redemption.

Hannah (21) is heading to Australia for a year after our New Year. She will be working part-time, finishing her on-line Toronto-based Nutrition course, and assisting a local church on the Gold Coast. She is very gifted as a teacher and as a worship leader. This will be quite an adventure for her (and her parents) and we will really miss her.

Rees (20) is in his first year of studying at Humber College in Toronto taking International Business and is also working as a security guard at Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship. (Everybody feels a whole lot safer now that he's on duty). He is also active in teaching and helping the Junior High Ministry at TACF.

Shekanah (17) is in her last year of high school and holding down 2 part-time jobs as a sewing assistant and making coffee at SECOND CUP, which is the Canadian version of Starbucks. She is involved in a young ladies cell group at TACF. She is saving up to take a trip to Ukraine in the spring to see all her friends she grew up with who will be graduating this year and dispersing around the world. She is also a very gifted piano and flute player.

Oksana is now in 9th grade, learning French, forgetting Russian, and generally happy-go-lucky. She is also very active in church youth activities, dances for the dance team, takes piano and flute and is a huge help to her Mom around the house.

Thanks to all of you who have stood with us in prayer and support. Without you we couldn't go on. With all of the good things that have happened this year, we are still very conscious that we are in desperate need of seeing True Revival spread across this world, especially the western nations. It is our deepest desire that the Lord would use our family, in spite of our weaknesses and failings, to be instruments of His to bring this Revival to reality.

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year season.

Dan and Gwen,

Daniel, Hannah, Rees, Shekanah and Oksana