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Dear Friends in Christ,

Sadly, we are going to cancel our latest attempt to return to the States for our furlough. This is why I try to make any plans on the basis of "Lord willing". There is still a two week quarantine period on travellers coming into the States and on travellers coming into Europe. We would have to be out of action for four weeks. So, Lord willing, we will try to reschedule our furlough for the middle of April through the end of May 2021.

Northern Ireland is one of the places in Europe that has been least affected by Covid 19. There have been 5,849 confirmed cases with 556 deaths. This is out of a population of 1.8 million people. The infection rate is .0032 nowhere near 1%. The death rate is .00030. We know of only one case connected to the church. The mother of one of our families tested positive for Covid 19. She is 101 years old. Her symptoms were fairly mild.

We have one family who are on the front line in the Covid 19 pandemic. Kerry is a doctor and his wife Margaret is a nurse. Also, Chandie works in a nursing home. Thankfully, no one in the nursing home has tested positive for the virus. Please pray for their continued safety.

Northern Ireland was placed on lockdown from the middle of March until the beginning of July. Even now life is far from normal. Churches were allowed to reopen from the 5th of July but still required to have social distancing and have sanitizing procedures in place. The social distancing has been reduced from 2 meters to 1 meter. This has made it possible for us to start having services on Sunday and our midweek Bible study. However, there are still people that, due to their age or health conditions, are reluctant to come to any gatherings.

With the social distancing outside of restaurants and churches still being 2 meters (6½ ft.), we won't be able to get back to door to door visitation for awhile. So, we are planning to distribute Gospels of John with a tract about Covid 19 and the need to turn to God and a leaflet about the church. Pray the Lord will use this to speak to peoples hearts about their need of redemption.

In our last letter, I mentioned that we had a new family that visited the church. That was the last service we had until the 5th of July. They were out with us last Sunday and planning to return this coming Sunday. Our prayer is that we can be an encouragement to them.

While on lockdown the folks at the church asked me to put something online. I did ten messages on "The Importance of the Resurrection" based on 1Cor 15:1-58. You can find them on our church's Youtube channel. Just search for Clady Water Baptist Church on Youtube. We are the only one with that name. The URL is https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq_eNqfX_jGw6yPZywbMggA?view_as=subscriber

Thank you so much for your continued prayers and support. We appreciate you all and need your prayers.

Yours in Christ,

Ed + Joan Bissett