

Dear Friends in the Lord,

Having sent out our regular monthly prayer/news bulletin on 1st December here is a yearly "round up" letter.

Once again it comes with our warm greetings to one and all,

THANK GOD FOR HIS SON – A GIFT TOO WONDERFUL FOR WORDS: 2 COR.9:15

December 2021

Dear Friends in the Lord,

As we near the end of 2021 we can think of it as a better year than 2020 as far as the pandemic is concerned but for most of us we realise that we are far from being back to normal. Will we ever get back to "normal" ? Good to know that all of this is in the Lord's hands and while we may not know what the future holds we know the one who holds the future.

THE WORK THIS YEAR: Most of the work we have been able to get on with more or less full scale with some restrictions here and there. The government gave a press conference recently and so far haven't announced any real restrictions apart from closing night clubs for four weeks. If the virus keeps spreading, however, as it is at the moment, then further measures will have to be taken. We have managed to keep main activities going with people present but some meetings have had to happen through zoom now and again. The literacy classes for Arab women, which Alison is more and more involved with, has been happening for the most part with the women present. The number of women attending has dropped somewhat since covid restrictions came in but there is still a good number who come along regularly. Also, a women's meeting started up again recently and another session is planned for January 2022, God willing. Another Alpha course started up recently too and should continue to run with four people attending. Preaching and teaching for Graham in different places has happened fairly normally and he is very relieved that he hasn't had to resort back to zoom for this !

CHANGES IN THE WORK FOR THE FUTURE: As has been already referred to in regular updates we have signed an official sales agreement for the sale of the property at the Voice of the Gospel ministries. At the moment we are in a waiting period while the buyer sets up various things so as to present his project to the local authorities for approval. If they agree then the full sale will go ahead. It could be well into 2022 before we know if the sale will finally go through. An important matter for prayer is the future of the work and where we will go to continue operating which is fully our intention so to do.

FAMILY: We do praise God for His goodness to us. We have been preserved from catching the virus and we, Graham and Alison, keep very well in general. It is now just over five years since Graham had his operation for breast cancer and four and a half years since he finished all his treatments of

chemotherapy and radio therapy. He continues with hormone treatment and sees the oncologist every six months but apart from that keeps remarkably well. Alison has a very strange thing – a heat in her right foot and leg. While not painful it is most uncomfortable. To touch her leg feels normal on the outside but inside feels quite hot. She has seen several specialists, has had scans and so on, but the doctors haven't found anything yet. She will go through further tests soon. The family continue to keep well too with Pamela and Fraser still in Dieppe with their three, Stephen and Sheila still in Leeds with their three. Stephen has made steady progress since his brain haemorrhage this time two years ago and we praise God that he has come through it unscathed. Suzanne and Eric are right beside us here with their three. We are a well balanced family with three grandchildren in each !

We take this opportunity of wishing you a joyful and peaceful Christmas and a blessed new year for 2022. We join in thanking you again for your interest, practical fellowship and prayers.

Graham and Alison Black, 6 Lotissement les Iris, 2811 Avenue Thiers,
13320 Bouc Bel Air, France.

Below is a photo of ourselves in the middle surrounded by other members of our home group with whom we enjoy excellent fellowship.



Graham et Alison.

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