Cartson's Refocused Missionary Correspondence

Permanent address as of March 1

30 Eastland Way Lincoln AL 35096 Jan 13, 2025 Paul 206-913-8305 Jayne 206-913-8306 carlsonpj@gmail.com

Dear Partners,

Please make note of our $\underline{permanent\ residential\ and\ mailing\ address}$ starting March 1:

30 Eastland Way, Lincoln AL 35096.



We are in the process of moving from Michigan, (with thoughts of visiting again after settling in Alabama). We have fond memories of times with family in our lakeside home



provided by our son and his wife, Dan and Cheryl. Yes, we will miss our Michigan family, which includes three grandchildren and three great grandchildren. We will especially miss our 5-year-old

grandchild, Kora, who visited us often in our downstairs home to read with grandma, cook with grandpa, and have sleepovers. We won't leak stories of all the other fun things her parents don't know about! We are thankful that our move doesn't require crossing the Atlantic Ocean this time, as it did for years!

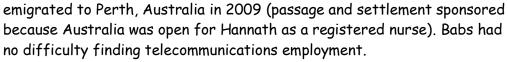
We have been reflecting on God's goodness over the past year. In order to spare you with pages of reading and photos, we are sharing three highlights with you:

Babs & Hannath (brought into our lives in 1999): God brought this



couple into our 'Reading and Thinking through the Bible' ministry (a commitment for about five years) in Durban, South Africa.

Along with two daughters, Celestine (14 at the time, now married to Harry) and Caitlin (8 at the time, now in a relationship with Tyrone)



It's exciting that God uses this family in extending his kingdom 'down under' (Aussie term) in their 'Reading and Thinking through the Bible' ministry. This includes Mary (Iranian) with her son. Pray for salvation for Mary's mother and brother. An added delight is that Babs and Hannath graduated to grandparenting with the arrival of healthy Luther, after a traumatic pregnancy.







<u>Simon & Sarah</u> (brought into our lives in 1982): In addition to their 'Reading and Thinking through the Bible' ministry, the Refocused Youth ministry in Faith Fellowship Church has resulted in four of them receiving degrees after high school education in 2024 with the church's assistance. The latest graduate is Belinda with a degree in Social Science (she chose a drum ceremony for graduation). Simon says they are encouraged with how dedicated Christian young

people are entering the marketplace, especially with the challenges in areas with strongholds from drugs, alcoholism, school dropouts, young pregnancies, broken

marriages, homes led by children, ancestral worship and high unemployment.

The evangelism team faces the same challenges in the three outreach communities of Faith Fellowship Church. Prayer requests: Two new couples trained for the Refocused Youth ministry; new

leadership in the outreach; more prayer intercessors (we can contribute to this).

Krish & Jane (brought into our lives in 1992): In addition to their 'Reading and Thinking through the



Bible' ministry, this couple were tour guides for ten days in December, in South Africa for Paul's brother, Peter and his family members, including a friend (9 in total).

Krish and Jane guided



them in retracing Peter's footsteps in Zululand (born 1950 -

departed SA 1966). It included visiting the hospital and stone chapel our father built in 1954 (our parents served in SA 1946-1982). The hospital was turned over to the government in 1978. Peter shared about two spiritual encouragements from their tour: (1) The present Hospital Administrator and his wife (a doctor), are committed Christians. During our 2007 visit, there was no evidence of a Gospel witness. God has brought the hospital full circle with a Christian testimony! (2) During their last tour day, they gathered at Krish and Jane's home where Believers Fellowship meets (Durban area).

The family shared with the fellowship, which included at least four families trained in our 'Reading and Thinking through the Bible' ministry (1974-2007). They shared how God is using them in the same way they learned - training mostly biblically illiterate people to read and think through God's Story! The results: 'Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus!'

This brings to our minds what someone recently shared from George Müller (1805-1898, Bristol, England): "And if anyone were habitually to neglect reading the word of God, let such a one be sure of this, - he will very soon find out how little he is able to withstand the devil and the corruptions within." Give thanks with us for God's faithfulness in using our partners in the ministry of learning the place of God's written Story to us.