

ANDERSON UPDATE

Your Bridge to Flemish Belgium

Dear wonderful pastors, supporting churches, friends, and family!

We are so blessed to have you as partners in the Lords work! Our last update letter (Jan-Mar) was a bit heavy and while some problems aren't solved and things aren't the way we'd like them to be, we have seen God working and have been encouraged in our faith. The enemy is still taking every opportunity to sow discord, but praise the Lord, God is still in control!

One of the young men in the church has asked Tom to mentor him. This has been a blessing as he is eager to learn and serve. Pray for Dennis as he grows and learns to balance his zeal with wisdom! It is exciting to have several people going through the discipleship course and Bible studies and there have also been some new visitors.

One lady, that has come for the last year and a half, was saved recently and wanted to be baptized. The problem is that she suffers from anxiety, has a huge fear of open water, and is uncomfortable in groups. It has been amazing to see how God is working and seeing her grow. Normally, we do our baptisms at the end of the summer in the North Sea, but she was baptized on Sunday evening, June 7th, with a small group at the home of a lady in the church who has a pool. There are 2 others still planning to be baptized later this summer!



Ladies Retreat was a great time this year. We had 10 ladies from our church (4 for the first time!) Overall, there were 68 ladies (Dutch, French, and English speaking with a few Spanish speaking). The men of the church also took advantage of the time to get together for a men's evening on the first night of the retreat. They also had a great time of fellowship!



Our neighbor turned 98 years old!!! She is still active, lives alone, and still rides her bike!!! We visited her to bring a little gift and were able to witness to her again. Pray that God's word can break through all the years of religious tradition!

We are almost finished restructuring the non-profit of the church (which is required in order for the church to have a bank account). This was necessary because 2 of the positions were held by a family that left the church while we were on furlough in the States... and of course that requires a lot of paperwork and meetings. It is also time to elect new deacons, but this had to be postponed because we have quite a few new people who needed a Biblical perspective on deacons, as well as church membership, because some mistakenly assumed that they were members simply because they had been attending services.

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Overall, there is a lot of enthusiasm and willingness to help as people are growing... even with one family trying to cause division. Please pray that we are able to handle the situation in a way that honors God and strengthens the church, as it is now getting to the point of open rebellion. On a good note, it has been encouraging to see the men of the church supporting us and working together for a godly solution.

On the home front, thank you for praying for the girls! Rayna's pregnancy is going well and our grandson is due July 29th! Praise: someone is helping pay for an airline ticket for Toni to go see Rayna and the baby... and the family in the area! This is a huge blessing as we were not going to be able to see them until our next furlough... so, at least Toni gets to be there. Rayna's husband, Ash, has a new job as a delivery driver. Please pray for him as he is doing this in the Joplin heat and humidity! Erika found a part time job at Sonic for a few months which has given her some work experience and a little cash to help, and now she is working for a restaurant called the Black Bear where she is getting some more hours and tips. Mom and Dad Tyte are settling into their new home in Springfield, MO. Thank you for your prayers. Mom said that they saw the Lord answering prayers right and left! The VA in Springfield is now working on getting the paperwork in order for Dad's disability! Please pray that this will go smoothly, as without it, mom will not get his military benefits when he passes away. Please pray for Tom's mom as she has health issues and isn't exactly "a spring chicken" any more. Toni is doing better with the empty nest feelings.

Other prayer requests: Need for a better vehicle here on the field... we still need to raise the funds to replace our 2010 Dodge. Also, we could use some prayer on learning to slow down and actually rest! We try very hard to be good stewards of our time and finances, as they belong to the Lord, but in the craziness of ministry and helping others with a myriad of problems... finding the time to slow down enough to recharge has been difficult. Because of our lack of funds and lack of help in ministry... the need to recharge has been neglected. This brings us to a praise... one of the families in the church here is bringing us with them on vacation! Please pray that we will be able to unplug for a week and get some much needed rest!

We love and appreciate all of you. You are such a blessing and vital to our ministry here in Flanders! May God's grace fill your lives as you continue to serve Him!

Love and prayers,

Tom and Toni



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