

[View this email in your browser](#)

December 2021 Update

Tom and Marilyn Wilson



*May the peace and hope of
Christ's birth
be with you now and in the days ahead...*

As we near the end of another year we reflect back on all the ups and downs, joys and sorrows that have transpired. Although Tom and I both recovered from Covid we know many did not and we continue to pray for those of you who have suffered the loss of loved ones. Three pastors of our supporting churches have gone on to be with the Lord since we were last on furlough and we will miss seeing them. They were always such an encouragement to us and faithfully teamed up with us since we first left for our ministry in South Africa. Our dear friend Mary went to be with the Lord in March and this will be Oliver and Layla's first Christmas without their mom. Please pray for them.

This has been a tough year for many but in spite of the difficulties we have seen God working to accomplish His purposes.

We were really blessed and encouraged at Sandton's annual missions conference as we interacted with several of the sixteen missionaries that they now support. Some of these families are serving in Papua New Guinea, The Philippines, Zimbabwe, and various parts of South Africa. Their missions budget is an indication of their heart for missions.

Alex and Gloria Couper are a Scottish couple who immigrated to South Africa almost forty years ago, got saved and trained under our Church Ministries Institute. They have been

pastoring the Newcastle Bible Church (our first church plant) for several years now. We were able to visit with them recently and they were so excited to tell us how God had used this time of Covid to expand their ministry. As services were closed down and they were forced to move to streamed services they found that many who hadn't previously attended the church were now tuning in at home. Not only that but they began to receive word from around the world (Pakistan, India, Afghanistan, England, Scotland and others) that many were being reached with the preaching of God's word. They now have a regular Thursday morning Bible study that is being interpreted for a group of believers in Pakistan.

The Benoni Bible Church (our second church plant) under the leadership of Pastor Rocky Stevenson, is now overseeing a new church plant in Bredell just outside of Benoni. When a missionary couple couldn't return to the Philippines due to the ban on travel they were asked to help teach a group of interested people in the Bredell area. After several months they baptized seventeen people and this group is now the beginning of a church plant. Benoni is assuming oversight of this group as well as training Ruan to be the future pastor of this group. Rocky is teaching an expository preaching class each week and Ruan attends the regular leadership meetings and men's Bible study and prayer meetings at Benoni Bible Church. Ruan has a real heart for the Lord and we are confident that he will mature spiritually as Pastor Rocky mentors him.

We are so encouraged as we see churches who have been on the receiving end of the missions endeavor now being on the sending end. You all had a part in this over many years as you faithfully supported us with your prayers and finances. Thank you.

We are planning a very short furlough the end of January and February to visit our supporting churches in West Virginia and Ohio and look forward to seeing many of you then. We were able to visit our other churches just before the virus hit in the early part of 2020 and feel that seeing the rest of you is so long overdue.

We pray that you all have a wonderful Christmas as we celebrate the Lord's birth and we pray for God's richest blessing on you in the New Year.



*If you love coffee like we do,
there's a unique way you can
help us here on the field by
simply drinking coffee!*

*Please check out
CoffeeHelpingMissions.com/about-us/
and take a moment to watch the one
minute and forty second video.*

Our email address is:

twilson@biblicalministries.org

Please do not mail anything to our previous P.O. Box address in SA due to prolonged strikes at the Postal Service there.