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Dear Pastor, Church, and praying friends,

Jeremiah 33:3 says, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee and shew thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not." We have lived in His presence over the last months literally. We have seen His tender care with our children and waited patiently for God to open the door for us to return to Australia.

A major concern has been our grandson, Nathaniel Paul, who was critically injured in a car wreck on the 29th of November. In January he was transferred from Fayetteville, North Carolina to Atlanta, Georgia where he is continuing with therapies. Finally, he emerged from unconsciousness on the 4th of March. He continues to progress, but must gain strength and learn to walk and talk again. He has a long road to recovery yet, but each day we see new abilities developing. The weight of his extreme condition has been a very great burden for our daughter, BethAnne, and son-in-law, Drew. Only God and the fervent prayers of multitudes of believers have carried them through these difficult months.

We have also prayed and supported our son, Tim, since his stroke in August. He has struggled a lot with the medicines which have caused him to be listless, dizzy, and nauseated continuously. He is progressing slowly with his right side, arm and leg which were paralyzed. Melanie, his wife, has been "everything" for their family needs, which is a heavy load, especially when she sees Tim trying to cope with his condition. We beg your prayers for both of our children and their families through these hard times. We also realize that God makes no mistakes and can use even hardships to bring Him glory.

After much concern over these family issues, we were encouraged by our children to finally book our tickets to Australia. I have often explained that traveling to Australia is the farthest we could go away from the U.S.A. That being said, the prices are comparable. We negotiated with a travel agent for two days and decided that we might have to give up the idea of going. However, God opened the door and we are praising his goodness for answering our prayers and heart's desires.

We will be leaving on April 17. We will be in our last church in the Brisbane area and with folks from a previous church in that city. Then we are excited to visit a young preacher family in the outback. Brendan Zimmermann was in our youth department along with our daughter-in-law, Melanie, over 25 years ago. He has planted a new church there. Continuing on, we will be in the mountains of New South Wales with a pastor that we helped to ordain to the ministry many years ago. Finally, we will be flying to Melbourne to be with church members from nearly 50 years ago. What a whirlwind and wonderful time! We want to be an encouragement and blessing to every person that comes across our paths.

Please continue to pray for my brother, Ken. His health is still unstable; he is bedfast in our home city in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support. Please pray God will use us and protect us as we go.

In the Harvest Together,
Earl & Joyce Koon
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"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Psalm 126:6