

## *"3 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, 4 Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, 5 For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;"*

Philippians 1:3-5

Lucinda and I have travelled many miles and visited many churches that have stood with us these many years. In 1987, we began our deputation as missionaries. It doesn't seem that long ago, but writing out the year sure looks like a long time ago! We left our position on staff at Trinity Baptist Church in Findlay, Ohio. They became our first supporting church along with our sending church. We headed to Texas for our first set of meetings. Such exciting days, visiting churches, preaching, testimonies, singing songs. It was wonderful! From that trip to Texas, we were blessed to begin receiving support. I returned to one of those churches this past Sunday.

In 1987, Trinity Baptist Church in Haskell, Texas, welcomed us to present our burden to them, and their generosity and hospitality were fantastic. For 35 years, they have faithfully supported us, and it was so good to see them all again. What a pleasure become acquainted with Pastor Rick and his wife. My heart was overflowing with appreciation for their commitment to missions. Grace Baptist of Kilgore, Landmark Baptist of Red Oak, and Arlington Baptist of Arlington also support us from Texas. During our trip to Texas (in 1987), we had the pleasure to meet Pastor Gene Woods of First Baptist Church of Peaceful Valley in Colorado Springs, CO. Pastor Woods said, "If you come to my church, we will support you." You guessed it! We went to Colorado Springs in 1988, and Pastor Woods was true to his word. First Baptist has supported us ever since. We can't emphasize how much we appreciate the folks who have stood with us all these years! Ohio, Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Texas, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois and Colorado; we love you all!

The work in South Africa continues for God's glory. Sipho at our main church, Matthews in Pretoria, and Munya in Cape Town are all doing well. It is a blessing to have men of God who know how to do the work of the Lord. Pray for Janvier, the Deaf man in Burundi. He wants to come to Bible College in February. We pray his visa is approved. He had a visa, but COVID resulted in all visas being canceled.

Please continue to pray for Seth, our grandson. He was scheduled for surgery on 30 August. Then we were told the surgeon had broken his shoulder. The surgeon later explained that it wasn't broken, but he woke up one morning, and it was frozen, and he couldn't move his arm. Intense therapy helped him regain movement, and the surgery was rescheduled for 9 September. His office called and asked if they could move Seth to 19 September

because of several babies who need heart surgery. So, be in prayer for all the babies and Seth. He is doing okay, but the surgeon doesn't want to wait any longer.

In closing, our children have many memories of growing up on the mission field. This one comes from a conversation between Lynette and Hannah. "Hannah, do you remember when we used to play cowboy and Indians with dad at the house in new Runda? One time, Dad gave us some rope, and he was the cowboy. We caught him, and you tied him to the tree, then we ran off. Dad must've yelled for us for about 15-20 minutes, but we wouldn't go! Eventually, we went back. You tied the knot so well that Dad couldn't get loose. That was the last time we played cowboy and Indians with real rope."

Hannah was watching some old videos of our family. Her four-year-old daughter, Delany, was watching with her. "Delany was upset and asked me, 'Mom, where am I in this video!' I told her she wasn't even around. This was way back when I was a little girl. She said, "WHAT? But I wanted to be with you when you were a little girl!'

In Christ, ils.c.

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