

Dear brethren at North Beach Street,

Thanks to you as always for your love and concern for us and the Lord's work in southern Africa. I apologise for the lateness of this email: we have spent the past two days travelling, and of course things are always hectic when you are with your children and grandchildren.

For this month's report, I decided to send you the letter that I sent today to all the brethren in South Africa and Zimbabwe (below). What I did not mention in that letter is that during the past two weeks, two of our children helped us to set up a website that we plan to use to teach our African brethren, even though we are in the USA. Many Africans now have smart phones and use them to surf the web. We are not ready to make the website public yet – it still needs quite a bit more work, particularly in adding articles written specifically for African brethren and lessons in different African languages. We have a few articles already translated, we are hoping the brethren will translate more, and of course we are hoping to add articles other than what we have already written. We are praying that the website will do a lot of good. May the Lord continue to bless us all in our labours for Him,

Les Maydell

Dear beloved brethren in South Africa and Zimbabwe,

We hope this email finds all of you well, both physically and spiritually.

By the grace of God we have arrived safely back in South Africa this afternoon. We so much appreciate your prayers on our behalf. We are very grateful to Links and Veni for picking us up at the airport and bringing us home. We are extremely tired, but we cannot complain about any of our 4 flights – everything went very smoothly. We are also very happy about our trip in general: we were so blessed to be with our children for the last two weeks of our trip, and we feel that the Lord blessed us to accomplish what needed to be done in regards to Linda's mother so that she is again relatively stable. Unfortunately however, her physical health is fragile and her dementia is causing her mind to keep on deteriorating. When her mind deteriorates to the point that she can no longer find the "path to safety," eg. in the event of a fire (they have practice drills), then Linda's mother will no longer be allowed to live in the affordable facility where she is and will be sent to a "memory care" facility which costs over \$7000/month – something which our family cannot afford. It is our goal to move to the USA as soon as possible to help her "age in place" (enable her to stay where she is now longer, which will help with her dementia) and also so that we will be able to have her live with us if she can no longer stay where she is now.

We are, of course, very sad (and rather overwhelmed) at the prospect of leaving you brethren, selling our cottage and moving to the USA. We are not sure how long it will take me to get a green card, but we estimate somewhere between 2-6 months. We hope to have more of an idea after our first appointment, but we can only make that appointment after I get my passport renewed (which supposedly takes 10 days – online renewal). The first appointment for my green card will be in Johannesburg, and we will have to travel up to Johannesburg at least twice during the process. We also need to travel back to our old property in Limpopo and remove the last of our belongings from the place (mainly things we use to go to Zimbabwe). And, most importantly, we want to say good-bye to our dear brethren up in that area whom we have known and worked together with for so many years.

We do not know if we will be able to come again to South Africa in future years while Linda's mother is still living, or even after she passes from this life, but it is our prayer that God will make a way for us to spend at least 2-3 months each year in southern Africa. We plan to keep our car and camper, at least for the next few years, so that we will have a place to live if/when we come.

I thought that it would be good for you all to know our plans, so that is why we are writing this email. Beginning from next Sunday, 22 April, we plan to resume our Sunday schedule if that is OK with the brethren concerned. (At the moment our Sunday morning schedule is: 1st Sunday of the month - Downtown; 2nd Sunday – Unit 9; 3rd Sunday – Silverglen; 4th Sunday – Pietermaritzburg.) Unfortunately, we will likely have to be away some Sundays as I have explained above, but I will let you know which Sundays they are when we know.

It is of great joy and comfort to us when we see you brethren growing in the Lord and when we can know that, even if we are no longer present with you to work together for the Lord, the Lord will continue to work through all of us who are His faithful servants, wherever we may be.

May we always pray for one another and may God richly bless us all to bring glory to Him.