



Our Work for the Lord wherever there is opportunity - November 2018

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Dear brethren,

Since we last wrote, Linda's mother has dipped down even further. She is more often confused than not. The "up" side of this is that she is more willing to receive help and is less aggressive about refusing to use her walker. The site of her skin cancer is healing nicely, and she is still quite strong physically – still able to dress herself, but needs assistance with bathing, washing her clothes and bedding, medication, etc. Sometimes she knows when to go eat and other times she doesn't. The worst thing about her dementia is the hallucinations. Two weeks ago she dreamed that she was going to have to have her arm and leg amputated – and she believed this for three days. Losing your memory is depressing, but this was a very painful experience – for her and for us.

My Wednesday night adult class is continuing. Each Wednesday I give out a sheet of questions to be completed before the next class – and many of the class actually do their homework. A few other brethren and I continue with our Meet-Ups every second Tuesday. So far we have had visitors at every Meet-Up, and one of the visitors has come twice. We are going through the book of Luke. This past week we were finally able to get back to working on the website and posted two more articles. One of them was an article that was written for the Kirkwood bulletin – the first in what I hope will be a series on animals in the Bible. This one was connecting the lion to Jesus, the Lion of Judah. We have also begun our marriage class with a young married couple on Monday nights.

We thank God that our goods arrived from South Africa with very minimal damage. It took about 2 days to unpack the boxes and put things away, and another day to hang our pictures. Now we feel quite a bit more settled, especially to have our books! We have had several families from the Kirkwood congregation in our home – one family at a time, trying to get to know them – and this also makes us feel more at home. What is still unsettling is that my medical insurance is up in the air. (Technically it is not insurance but a "care and share" type of assistance.) We thought that everything was in order, but it seems now that they are unwilling to "insure" me because I am over 65 but not eligible for Medicare, not even to buy it. They do make exceptions however, and we are waiting for a final decision from the board. We would appreciate your prayers in this regard.

We also thank God that we have heard from about half the people who support us that they are willing to continue with 2/3 of my support for the first 6 months of 2019, after which we will receive income from our retirement annuity. The Lord has provided for our needs in so many wonderful ways through the years. We know that we are not guaranteed comfort and ease in this life, but we certainly do thank you and thank God for His abundant provision so far.

News that we are receiving from our Zimbabwe brethren indicates that things are not going well in the country. The good news is that over the weekend they received their first decent rain and can begin plowing. The bad news is that seed has doubled in price, indeed everything has doubled in price. An ordinary tube of toothpaste in Bulawayo now costs US\$20. Gasoline is scarce, and people are waiting 7 hours in line to buy a quarter tank of fuel. Please pray for our brethren – and for their country.

Your servant in Christ, Les Maydell