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July 29, 2020

Dear brethren in Christ,

A warm "Hello" to you all! We are doing well and adjusting to changing circumstances with the pandemic. Thankfully, the number of active coronavirus cases has been lower in upstate New York. Our governor opened up the state economy in our region more and allowed for public gatherings under certain conditions. Churches can meet in numbers up to one-fourth of the building capacity. Our meeting place can hold 200 people, so we can meet with 50 people, which has been our average attendance anyway. We began with seating arrangements that separated families six feet apart. The Lord's Supper is prepared as germ-free as possible and distributed by brethren wearing masks. Regardless of the extra precautions, it has been so encouraging to be together as a spiritual family again. This circumstance has been a challenge balancing spiritual needs with state laws. Frankly, we got to the point that we needed to meet again no matter what was happening in the world. The spiritual survival and growth of the brethren are vitally important.

One of the great things about meeting near Fort Drum, NY, is the influx of military families. Three new young couples with small children are now meeting with us. The military base quarantines incoming families for 2 weeks before they can leave the base, so there is little fear of the virus coming from there.

Prior to our meeting as a group again, I used quarantine time to make workbooks for our midweek Bible study. I'm teaching the books of Exodus and Leviticus for this quarter. I've attached the workbook with this email if you are interested. For Sunday morning class, I'm teaching the Life of Christ. We are currently in the Sermon on the Mount. The brethren in Philadelphia, NY, have a nice projection system. We connected an old Apple TV to the projector so I can use my iPad to display my charts. That has worked very well.

My sons have been studying online with some of the young men in the church who need encouragement. My wife Lanna is wonderful with people and is a great companion in the work. By the way, Lanna and I celebrated our 1st Anniversary last week. It's hard to believe it's been a year since we got married. We will be talking Sam and Josh back to Florida next week. Lanna will fly down first and spend some time with Mom before I arrive in the car with the boys. Sam graduated Florida College last year with his 4-year degree, but the ceremony was delayed until this August. So, Lord willing, we are attending that. Sam's plans are to live with his grandmother and work at a job in Tampa until the Spring, and enroll at South Florida to complete his teaching degree for Florida. Joshua will be returning to Florida College as a sophomore. We hope and pray that the school year will be as normal as possible and that the virus will not affect school operations. My brother Brian, who teaches at FC, has been working hard on getting his classes ready for online instruction should that be required.



I hope and pray that all is well with you, and that you remain safe from the virus while also continuing to grow in the Lord. Thank you very much for your interest in the work in upstate New York. Your prayers and support mean a great deal to us. We couldn't be here without you. We love you all very much!

Your brother in Christ,