

Hope... Joy... Peace... Love...

The traditional Advent themes help to ground us and push back against the despair, unrest, anger and hatred that appear to permeate our world. Whether a formal observance of Advent is part of our tradition or not, the timelessness of these pillars of wholeness should give us pause to refocus. Refocus on the only Source of these elusive elements and deepen our reliance on the Child of Hope, the Prince of Peace, the Jesu of Joy and the Father of Love.

Hope in the summer



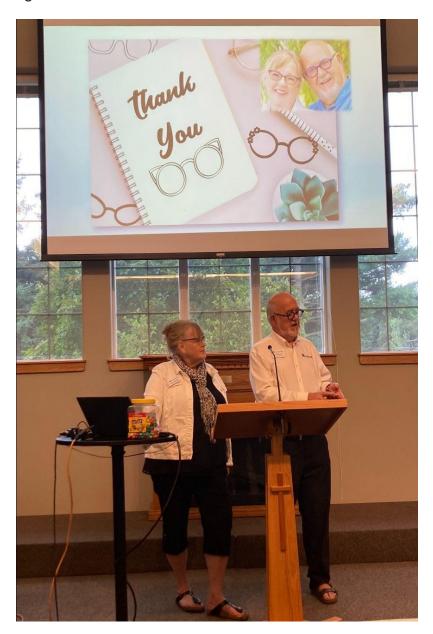
July disappeared into a blur of hospitalizations, doctor's visits, tests and rest. Lots of rest. Thank you for all the support and prayers for us both as we *hoped* in the Lord for His healing touch and a resolution of the pericarditis and effusion. He is faithful! We had great times of needed rest with family and in nature and slowly but surely symptoms began to resolve.

Joy in September



Above: Rosanne & Myrna from StoneyCreek Baptist Church in London Ontario with some of the hundred's of glasses collected through the Prime Time Seniors.

Below: Presenting That All May See Sharing Joy





Mid September we headed to Stoney Creek Baptist Church, London On. We had the privilege of sharing the ministry of *That All May See* to the Prime Time Sr's group. What a *joy* to There is a local saying: "Where the heck is Lion's Head"? Up on the Bruce Peninsula about 1/2 an hour south of Tobermory. Does that help?

Share what the Lord is doing through a simple pair of eyeglasses. It was a huge encouragement to our hearts and we had the *joy* of knowing that this friendly group of seniors caught the vision! Several hundred pair of glasses were collected and carefully sorted and we are so grateful!

Later in September we traveled north to our previous home church Bethel

EMCC in Lion's Head.

On Sunday morning we shared the recent ministry to the LAC (Limited Access Country) as well as in Uganda. Don opened the Word, preaching on the feeding of the four thousand. A potluck lunch gave us opportunity to reconnect with the church family which we appreciated both very much. Graciously, the congregation and locals collected eyeglasses so *That All May See* HIM. What a complete *JOY*. Thank you!



Above 1:. Sharing a word of Hope at Bethel EMCC **Above 2:**: Our friend and hostess Moe with glasses collected by the congregation

That All May See

Peace in October

Just as we started to return to our "normal", symptoms began to return and once again the doctor's visits, medication changes and diagnostic tests ramped up. The inflammation had returned. As frustrating as this was, we felt the *peace* of God through the medical doctors and words and messages of encouragement from friends and family. "But what if?",

"How long?", and "Will it come back again?". "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid". John 14:27 Once again, the symptoms are abating and we are trusting the Lord to work out His perfect will.



Grace Gospel Church in Niagara Falls, Ontario is our home church. Later in October, we had opportunity to update the church family and share how the Lord has been working through *That All May See*. We are blessed to be part of a supportive and caring congregation and are at **peace** knowing that the family of God is praying!





October 31st brought a good number of people to our door. Each one who came seeking candy, we pray will seek and find HIM. The treats were

packaged in little treasure chests with the Gospel clearly presented inside. What kind of soil did they land on? Only the Lord knows but we pray that the **peace** of God was felt through the happy "Hearty har har" that greeted each one at the door.

Praise

Returning health and strength

Local opportunities to show the love of Jesus

Two new potential volunteers for *That All May* See

Reports of fruit from the Uganda Outreach

Prayer

Pray for a move of God among our neighbours

Pray for health & clearance from the specialists to travel

Pray for outreach planning in 2024

Pray for training of new volunteers and space for our home office



Listen, Meditate and Rejoice

Love in December

Opportunities abound for connection with and ministry to our neighbours. We are beginning to see the fruit of several years of sowing. Our Colombian neighbours reached out with a need which our church was able to assist with. Since then they have attended the services twice. The connections made in the summer with a believing hispanic family were a blessing. During one of the services, this lady was able to translate for our Colombian friend. The next time they came, they brought *their* Colombian neighbours with them!

Several neighbours have reached out for assistance in different ways. And by God's grace and His perfect timing, we were available to help. We pray that the *lov*e of Jesus will be felt and that these dear folks will come to recognize just how much the Lord Jesus *loves* them.

We were blessed to assist with our church's annual neighbourhood Christmas Caroling. On two evenings and on two different streets, the truth about God's *love* in sending Jesus was sung out - mostly in tune! Many people responded positively. The candy canes given out probably helped!

We want to express our deep gratitude to each person and our church families for the *love* and support shown to us. Thank you for your messages and visits. What a huge blessing to hear "we've been praying for you". Thank you for your financial support during these difficult days. Your faithfulness to us is not taken for granted!

And finally, thank you for your prayer for *That All May See*. We give thanks for each one and pray that the Lord will shower His great *love* and many blessings upon you in 2024. Please let us know how we can pray specifically for you.

A final word:



"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." **Isaiah 9.6**

Christmas is a special time for church and school plays and pageants.

Music rings out with the Truth through choirs of comical little ones as well as through the performances of sophisticated professionals. We can enjoy it all!

We were watching a Youtube video

from Handel's famed "Messiah". The picture representing the song, showed a babe in a manger, and a caption "A child is born". So, so true. but . . . Then, we noticed that the presentation was posted by a group that holds to the humanity of Jesus, but *not* His deity. Then we understood why only half the verse was there. They did not believe what they were proclaiming. How sad. So very sad. How can folks sing the truth about THE Truth but yet the penny does not drop? The whole meaning of Christmas is, "God with us!" Without this truth we would be hopeless and doomed. But God . . . How can this be missed? And, yet to many around us, it is. What a sobering responsibility and privilege it is to consistently and lovingly proclaim the Truth .

Don has been discipling a couple of young men one of whom is a Messianic Jew. This year, we were delighted to hear about Hannukah, the festival of dedication/lights spoken of in John 10:22. Lighting our nine candle Menorah each evening took on a deeper meaning. As we contemplated the growing darkness of the days in which we live juxtaposed with the growing light of Christ, we were struck again with the immensity of God's *love* to us in sending His Son for us. Today, let's stop and take a moment to reflect on the truth that God sent His Son, Jesus, truly God and truly man, into the world so that we might

believe on Him and have eternal life. **He** is our **Hope**, **Joy**, **Peace** and **Love** from the Father. Let's celebrate the truth that our Saviour Jesus Christ has come and He will come again! To God be the glory!

Happy Christmas! from our house to yours, in Christ,



Don & Karen

For Year End Giving



