

- FALL/WINTER 2020 - 2021

## Canadian Director's Report

Personal newsletter featuring ministry and family updates, greetings and more from Bill and Judy Ball.

# A MESSAGE FROM BILL & JUDY BALL

Entering the month of November we have experienced both winter and summer weather. It has been that kind of year for all of us. Most "snowbirds" won't be heading south for the winter as they have for decades due to border closures.

### ADAPTING TO A NEW NORMAL

#### "GOD'S PEOPLE HAVE RESPONDED WITH WONDERFUL ENTHUSIASM."

We have learned to adapt to a new normal in many respects. While travel is restricted some churches have invited us to share the opportunities with SGA Canada. Distancing protocols are followed and the message is proclaimed. God's people have responded with wonderful enthusiasm.

The pandemic forced us to develop a new campaign called, Christ Over Covid. With daily reports from the former Soviet Union countries we are sharing the story of how doors have swung wide open in meeting practical needs then sharing the Gospel. The response has been beyond anyone's expectations.

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We are now ramping up our Immanuel's Child star outreach to children. The goal is 50,000 stars for Christmas on January 7th, the Orthodox day of celebration. As I write we are once again seeing a large influx of gifts. The gatherings overseas will be limited so many children will be visited in their homes or at the orphanages. For \$35.00 Canadian we provide a child with the Gospel, a Bible, clothing and food as needed in every unique circumstance.

From the picture in this report you will observe that our family were able to be together. Yes, Chris and Karyn along with our 3 grandchildren made an unexpected trip home from Africa for 7 weeks. The mission they serve with provided time in Canada for a break. The first two weeks were spent in quarantine at a cottage then five weeks with us. We were all together including Dan and Kim for Thanksgiving and many special outings.

Looking ahead to 2021 we are anticipating continued challenges reworking how we do ministry. Many hours are being spent in thinking through and praying about the way forward. Different appeals and modes of communication are being considered and adopted. Your prayers for this process are much needed. The methods may change but the mission remains the same.

Once the Covid threat is reduced we will travel again here in Canada and overseas. Many are asking us to come but will do so once it is deemed safe. We have remained very healthy and are even getting in more exercise. Zoom skills have excelled with learning curves being stretched. While in the office more we are evaluating all of our tech systems and processes. This will allow us to be more efficient and provide more personal contact for all of our donors.

Plans are being made for future projects that will involve many people from Canada and overseas working together. There are endless opportunities and the believers love it when we bring teams over to serve side by side. It certainly opens our hearts towards ministry. If you are interested please contact us about how you can participate.



## WHEN THEY SAW THE STAR, THEY WERE OVERJOYED. **MATTHEW 2:10**

We want to express a warm Christmas season wish to each of you from our family remembering the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Some will have limited gatherings and others may receive a Zoom or Facetime visit. Whatever that may entail may you know the love of God for you!

Blessings,

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