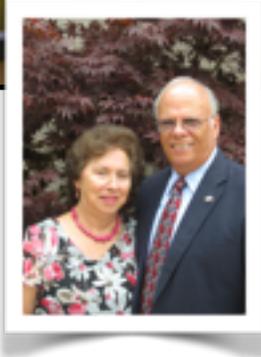


Millers' Memo

Since 1969
August 2020



What a year this has been! Many plans have had to be canceled, others are being accomplished but in a different manner. We're disappointed that we couldn't go to France this year, but they couldn't receive us either. The staff at BLF France has been working only a few hours a day, mostly from

home. Bookstores have been closed, so naturally BLF's sales and their income are reduced. We've not been able to travel in the US either, but we've used email and our telephone to communicate.

We've been back in the US for 15 years already and realize that we need to go through our "stuff" and move out all the things we no longer need. We don't want our children to have this burden on them should we suddenly not be able to care for ourselves anymore. When Jon and family were with us for 2 1/2 months earlier this year, he was very helpful in this regard. We've gotten a good start, but still have a long way to go and we keep working on it.

As soon as the members of our Tuesday morning Bible study group felt it was safe, we began meeting again. The home where we meet has a patio and pool, so we could meet outdoors and stay far enough apart. It was wonderful to see each other again and to study God's Word together. We finished the book of Romans and we're now studying the book of Revelation. It's amazing how relevant the letters to the seven churches are to our present situation in America!

The end of May we got a call from our friends Dan and Jan who live in Cocoa Beach, 3 hours from Spring Hill. Dan had found a 32-ft. Luhrs boat in the Keys for sale at an unbelievably low price and asked Russ to

come and accompany him, bringing the boat up the Intracoastal Waterway. Russ saw this as a great adventure! Jan wanted Mary Ann to stay with her in Cocoa Beach for fellowship. Dan and Russ took possession of the boat, loaded it with their bedding, food, and tools and headed out. The following afternoon the engine quit, Dan was guiding the boat, the current was strong, pushing them toward other boats. Russ grabbed the anchor and pulled strenuously. Suddenly he couldn't get his breath and began to black out. Dan managed to pull up next to a boat that was docked. He and others got Russ onto land, and called an ambulance which took him to a Baptist hospital in Tavernier in the Keys. In examining him they saw it was a cardiac problem and asked to take him to their large cardiac hospital in Miami.

This is how the Lord got Russ into one of the three

best cardiac hospitals in eastern USA! He was there for 10 days and received wonderful care, a lot of testing and procedures by a cardiologist and nephrologist who worked together beautifully. They found that Russ' aortic valve had narrowed, his heart rate was only 37 and his brain wasn't getting enough oxygen. Russ ended up with a permanent pacemaker and an aortic valve replacement.

Miami is a "hot spot" for coronavirus, so Mary Ann couldn't enter the

hospital to visit Russ. She stayed with Jan until the day Russ was released when they drove down to Miami to pick him up. We spent the night in Cocoa Beach and drove home the next day. As we look back on this experience, we see that our great God did many special things to provide the best and least expensive care for Russ. We could never have worked all that out ourselves. Praise God with us!

Dan just sent a text that he finally has his boat at their home in Cocoa Beach. It needed many repairs, making for a long story.





Ron & Shannon

When Kira & Laina's school closed from Covid in March, Ron & Shannon moved their family to their home in PA, where they remain. Ron continues to work Africa policy issues at the Pentagon via telework. Shannon's psychotherapy practice is experiencing exponential growth. They hosted Jon and Suz's families for a rare sibling reunion. Covid has delayed their schedule to move to Israel this summer. They will go when the situation allows.



Jon & Heather

Jon and Heather, along with Jebel (9), Jazira (6), and Judah (3) enjoyed winter in Michigan. They were traveling to visit family and friends when COVID-19 restrictions were announced, so they came to stay with us in FL where the kids could play outdoors without many restrictions.



Jon's family has been out of Liberia for eight months now. They were able to travel and visit people just a bit before Covid-19 shut them down. They still have not been able to settle on what job is next for them. They would appreciate any prayers towards God's guidance in their long-term future plans. In the meantime they have been able to do projects in the various houses of the people they have visited.



Scott & Susan

Downings had plans to fly from Chad to the USA for their furlough the first week of May, in time to witness Audrey's graduation from the Trailhead Program in northern Wisconsin. But Covid-19 canceled them and the airport in Chad was closed! They continued with their ministry until it was learned that Air France would have a flight in and out at the end of May. They were able to get seats for all 6 of the family. God did amazing things all along the way and brought them to Washington, D.C. on May 31. They self-quarantined for 2 weeks at Ron's house near the airport.

Now Audrey has joined them at their lovely rental home in Clermont, FL. They are helping Selah prepare for entering Liberty University's Nursing Program on August 17. She was awarded the MK scholarship for free tuition for 4 years! Audrey passed her exam in Alternative HealthCare and is planning to begin practicing it in the area of Clermont.

Family reunions and making plans for the year have occupied them so far. Travel to visit supporters is difficult to plan, but hopefully, will be possible by Fall.



We praise the Lord for keeping us well all year and trust He has done the same for you. We also praise Him for each of you who prays for us, our families and our ministries. Thank you so much! It is your support by praying and giving that keeps us able to work for BLF. May He continue to provide for you as well.