

The Heerahs



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Trinidad Project

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Dear Prayer and Ministry Partners,

This last year has been truly a time of trying and testing our faith during some very difficult seasons of ministry. Warren Wiersbe in his book "Why Us?" states that, ***"God proves His sovereignty, not by intervening constantly and preventing these events, but by ruling and overruling them so that even tragedies end up accomplishing His ultimate purposes."***

We know many of you have been faithfully lifting your prayers and supplications to the Lord for us. We look back and say, "THANK YOU JESUS FOR YOUR AMAZING FAITHFULNESS THROUGH YOUR PEOPLE AROUND THIS WORLD."

We choose to be thankful in spite of, regardless of, and in the midst of every situation because God is right here with us and He will do what He says He will do. We are grateful for 1 Thess. 5:24, ***"Faithful is He who called you who also will do it."*** This promise reminds us that it is God who has called us, and it is God who will complete His work through us so that all glory will go to Him. May we never allow pride to wrap its ugly tentacles around our hearts as we serve Christ. May we be able to guard our hearts from pride and trust God to do His work in and through us.

As we started the year, Ronnie encouraged the believers that even though God was evidently doing an amazing work among us and many were coming to Christ, we needed to be watchful for the enemy was also doing his work. Our goals were being met as we saw the men of the church maturing, small groups multiplying, numbers increasing, and spiritually believers were deepening their lives through the Word. But as is normally the case, the enemy was raging and launched his attack from within our walls. He used a couple who were serving and leading vital ministries of the church to bring divisions, chaos and confusion. **'BUT GOD'** - two of the sweetest words we will ever read, did not intervene and prevent this when we asked Him to. Instead, He stepped in when He knew He would get all the glory and the church would learn the lessons of faith and trust. Sparing you the details, we can say God is always victorious and nothing will destroy His work. On the contrary, He promises to destroy those who defile His church - 1 Cor. 3: 17. Today the church stands strong and firm. Praise the LORD!

However, amidst all the trials and difficulties, we saw the hand of God in ***His provision, protection and providence*** in our lives.

In May of this year both Joseph and Charissa took national exams and excelled. Joseph completed form 5 (10th grade) and Charissa finished up elementary school. She is now attending the secondary school of her choice (Bishop Anstey



High School) and Joseph is moving on in 6th form (11th grade) with studies in Chemistry, Physics and Environmental Science. Thanks for

your prayers for our children.

Later in May, we had a music team from Cedarville University visit us to do some training



in worship for our church. We also invited 4 other churches from the area. This was very beneficial.



Sadly, one of the pastors on the team, Dr. Ron Plemons, (far right), from First Baptist Church of



Fairborne, Ohio, passed away in August after suffering a massive heart attack. He has left to mourn his lovely wife,

Susan. They were married for 32 years. She is a vocal professor at Cedarville University. We continue to lift her up in our prayers.

In the month of June, Justin, Joseph and another young man from our worship band, were invited to attend a worship camp at Cedarville



University. This was an enjoyable time for them as they were trained and equipped to serve in the areas of worship and audio technical departments. It was at this camp that Justin was accepted to Cedarville University to pursue his real passion in Worship/Music and Worship Media. We are so thankful to God for giving them this opportunity and for your many prayers on Justin's part as he went through a path of uncertainty and discouragements over the last year and a half. We believe has finally found his way! Hallelujah!

In July, Ronnie, Meela and Charissa joined our two boys in the US for 3 weeks of vacation, a trip



we normally take every 5 years. This year we visited Ronnie's family in South Florida and Meela's brother and family in Atlanta.

We also got to visit with one of Ronnie's aunts in Atlanta whom he had not seen in over 30 years. We then spent a few days in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee with Meela's other brother, which was



very refreshing, and then spent some time visiting friends and other family members in Atlanta and South Florida. Three weeks flew by fast and we covered a lot of miles starting and ending in Florida. It was truly a lot of fun. We even got to visit Disney World and Sea World and are especially thankful to some of our family and friends who helped with some of these expenses. We are ever so grateful for their kindness.

We flew back to Trinidad on July 31 and had two weeks to try to get a US student visa for Justin and put things in place for him to leave by mid -



August. It was clear that God had other plans, and again He tested our faith as we had to wait. Justin finally boarded a plane and set out to follow His passion at Cedarville University on September 2nd. He arrived about 2

weeks late and had a lot of catching up to do. It has been miracle after miracle to see this dream become a reality and we are rejoicing to see him step out in faith to do what God has called him to do. ***“Faithful is He who called you, who also will do it.”***



Even though we miss him a lot, we are thankful for technology. We talk with him often and hear of his stories of faith and God’s amazing provision. We hear a deepening of his heart for God and a wisdom beyond his years. He is now 21 and if all goes as planned, he can finish in 3 years. Of course, this is a huge step of faith for all of us and we ask that you pray with us that God’s will be done and that Justin will be afforded the opportunity to finish. We need God’s miraculous provision for this to happen. But we know from personal experience, having walked that path 27

years ago, that God provides wherever He guides. We are truly thankful to God for a few friends who have stepped alongside Justin at Cedarville to help him through this path. We are very grateful for Dr. Roger O’ Neel and his family for their love and acceptance of Justin. Even though he lives on campus at the dorms, he often spends weekends with this dear family...where it’s like his home away from home.

Please pray for the Men of Hope who are in the L.I.T.E. (Leadership Interns Training Experience) small group. In September, we added 2 new men to the initial group of 4 and we had 1 man step down as God began to unveil areas in his life that was not fitting for him to lead. Pray for this brother as we continue to work with him. Ronnie is very grateful for these men who have stood with him over the last 9 months as they walked together through this storm. They were a great support to us as we sought to bring a biblical solution to all the chaos and confusion.

In October we had our first ever church family camp at Victory Heights and it was a time of



healing and unity for the church body. The theme was “Rise Again” and it was a call to rise again to the

task of fulfilling the Great Commission of winning souls, establishing believers and equipping the church to make disciples who will make disciples.



We thank God for the elders of St. Augustine Evangelical Bible Church who walked with us

through our difficult season and ministered to us

at our weekend camp. We praise God for this sending church and its leaders.

On November 12, our church celebrated our 7th anniversary as we gave thanks to God for His



goodness and faithfulness over the years. We had 156 people join us for this celebration.

We continue to see an increase in new and young families coming to church. We have also multiplied two small groups and added a Women's Coffee Morning Bible Study with 12 women, which Meela leads.

As we head into the Christmas season please pray with us for the following:

1. Justin - to finish his first semester strong.
-for his huge financial need at school
-his fellowship being so far away from home. (We are thankful he has the opportunity to spend the Christmas holidays with some relatives in Tennessee). Of course, WE WILL MISS HIM A LOT AS THIS IS A FIRST FOR US . . .
2. The church - to continue to grow as we reach out to the community with the Gospel and through compassion to 50 families this Christmas.
3. The men of the L.I.T.E. small group - to grow up and persevere through this defining time in their spiritual lives. Pray for their families as well.
4. That God will provide someone to lead the worship ministry and youth ministry - either full time or part time.

5. Our marriage - to continue to be strong as we press on. We are very thankful for each other. This last year has certainly taken a toll on us but we are trusting the Lord for a time of refreshing soon.
6. Our kids - to all do well at school and prepare their hearts for God's purposes for their lives. Joseph continues to serve at the church in the A/V dept.
7. Our 6 small groups - to be established and the believers - to be strengthened through the Word and authentic community.
8. Our personal support and finances - as our country is now in a recession and it is getting worse. We are a bit behind in our personal monthly support as things have taken a downward turn in the economy.



We are truly thankful to all of you who have stood with us faithfully over the last 21 years as we serve God in Trinidad. Your care and generosity have caused great thanksgiving in our hearts and in the church to our God. May He bless you and use you mightily as we get ready to meet our Savior. May He say to all of you at that time, "WELL DONE, THOU GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANTS."

In His Grace,

Ronnie, Meela, Justin, Joseph & Charissa

