

Hello Dear Friends!

We pray that you have a wonderful Christmas. We will be celebrating in Kenney, Illinois with Bob's mom, Linda. Mom is doing well, though her mobility is reduced, and thinking is often cloudy. We're getting more and more engaged in our 350-person village. The Lord has blessed us to lead a house church with wonderful friends. We're also involved in Texas Christian Church, where Bob's brother, Scott, is pastor. Carol serves the church by doing janitorial work. She has a gift and calling to serve – and she does! She's sacrificially served members of our family, our community, and our ministry like never before!



We've been blessed over the last couple of months to be able to travel and visit with each of our children and their families! In October Bob flew to Phoenix to spend a few days with John, Kefei, Declan (4), and William (2). Carol had spent three months with them while John was in Portland Oregon doing advanced training with Intel Corporation. He's a process engineer in their chip fabrication division. . They are preparing for a move to Albuquerque, New Mexico over the next few weeks – pray for them!

We spent time with Nicole and her family at our farm in Horicon, Wisconsin during November. It's been such a joy watching Eric, Nicole, Asher (13), Cayden (11), and

Samuel (5) settle into their new home. They are making the most of it, and the boys love romping in the woods and fields – just as their mom and uncles did when they grew up there 25 years ago! The Lord has blessed them with jobs, a car, and a school that the kids love. Eric's also spoken a couple of times at Gateway Community Church in Mayville, the church we planted in 1995!



We were blessed to be able to spend a week with Andrew, Rachel, Levi (8), Samantha (7) and Jackson (6) in Jacksonville, Florida, too. With Andrew's many Navy deployments and underways, it's been difficult to find opportunities to gather over the past few years. But he's got a shore duty posting at this time and was able to take some leave and spend the entire week with us and the family. They bought their first home this year, and the kids love playing football and romping around the big back yard.



2023 was perhaps the busiest ministry year we've ever had. There were ministry trips to Egypt, Tunisia, Albania, Poland, and Ukraine. As well as domestically in Washington DC, Green Bay, Des Moines, and Orlando. In addition to the house church in Kenney, Bob spoke in 6 different churches on 10 different occasions. God is blessing our Impact ministry by adding new team members and increasing the scope of our work. It's been great to connect with Gospel movements in Romania, Latvia, Finland, Tunisia, Israel, Syria, and Germany.

In May we were blessed to be able to join members of the Southeast Polk Family Church in Des Moines, Iowa on a cruise to the southern Caribbean...we really needed it!

As we look to 2024, we, like you, have no idea what lies ahead. But like you, we walk by faith and not by sight! We hold our plans, and our very lives, loosely. We know that He who placed the stars in the heavens, and calls each one by name, directs our path as we trust in Him with all our hearts, and don't lean on our own understanding.

May He grant you a wonderful Christmas and a blessed New Year!

~ Bob & Carol

