



*Committed to Trust!*  
*Compelled to Go!*

**Issue #142**  
**April 2, 2021**

Dear Friends, Family, and In-Pact Partners:

Would you believe it has been almost Eight Months . . . **EIGHT MONTHS!** . . . since we have sent an official “LUMglobal” prayer and praise letter!!!! Yes, we’ve sent some brief updates, but nothing with serious news or pictures. So, let’s try to catch things up. We’ll try to make it all “short ‘n’ sweet” and include pictures as we’re able. There is MUCH to share, both with us and with other connecting ministries:

**+ Personally:**

Many people have texted, called, or e-mailed us over the past months wondering about our health and general well-being. In a word, we are doing great. We celebrated our 62<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary January 29<sup>th</sup>, Jo Ann celebrated the 29<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her 50<sup>th</sup> birthday ( ;- ) on February 27<sup>th</sup>, and Bob turned 83 on March 19<sup>th</sup>. We never realized getting old could be so much fun and could happen so quickly.

People keep asking us how long we will continue in ministry, and we simply tell them it is so much fun we can’t imagine doing anything else. We can’t imagine anything being more enjoyable, and there are still people all around us who either have not heard the story or are struggling and in need of strong encouragement. So, each year, Bob continues praying and asking for those four things:

1. Extend our days.
2. Increase our strength and endurance.
3. Meet our needs.
4. Open doors.

He has done them all again, so there is no reason to change our lifestyle or our calling.

As to the COVID-19 situation, neither of us has had any symptoms of it, and we both have received the two dosages of the Moderna vaccine. With the exception of Bob having severe side effects of the second shot (chills, fever, headache, weakness) that hit him 10 hours later and lasted only about 12 or 14 hours, our lives have not been changed. The only thing we’d do differently is that we wouldn’t have taken the second shot on Saturday just before a heavy Sunday schedule. That was pretty dumb! Bob was really exhausted by the time we got through with Sunday activities.

When we had our doctors’ appointments last Fall while in Collins for a few weeks, Bob’s regular upper and lower GI exams revealed a nodule on his prostate gland. So, when we returned to Yuma, he had a bladder exam and biopsies of the prostate. Gratefully everything came back negative, and the doctor gave him a clean bill of health. Then he began to develop bumps and extreme itching on his arms that would cause him to scratch so hard that capillaries would rupture and create blood coagulation on his arms. He has had that problem off and on ever since he began taking a diuretic two years ago. Currently the doctor has him off the medication for a month with the hope that it will clear up. It is much better, but is still bothersome at times.

**+ Ministry in Yuma:**

The Fortuna de Oro RV Resort (<https://www.cal-am.com/resorts/fortuna-de-oro/>) is one of 13 resorts owned and operated by the Cal-Am Properties and Resorts Corporation out of CA. Most of them are in AZ, but all of the “cookie cutter” policies that apply to all the resorts are based on CA cautionaries, fears, and propaganda. As a result, we have faced the March, 2020 COVID-19 corporate restrictions throughout the season, and still do in spite of the fact that AZ, Yuma, and most other resorts have dramatically loosened the “rules”.

We never hear it from our Chapel members, but you can still detect its presence. The Park has raised its fees again – in spite of most of the amenities being closed down for much of the season – and maintenance and service has deteriorated a bit. This is not sitting well with many residents, so unit sales are up for that reason as well as health issues and a few deaths.

The Chapel was impacted by the corporate policies and, as we mentioned in our letter last August, we were required to keep maximum attendance below 50, observe the six-foot rule, no hugs or handshakes, use sanitizer, and wear facemasks at all times. As things changed outside the park, people automatically loosened up in Chapel, so since nobody seemed to check on us, we lightened up on the hugs, handshakes, and masks but maintained the six-foot rule by using tables with two chairs per table. The only people outside of the park who were allowed to attend were those who were part of our leadership team. That was another irrational rule.

But, as always seems to happen, “what [Satan] meant for harm, God turned for the good” (Gen 50:20). Even though some Chapel activities did not happen at all, even though our highest attendance for the season was only 46, and even though none of our Canadian members were ever allowed into the U.S., this was one of the best seasons we’ve had in the four years we’ve been here. Our attendance started with 8 on November 8<sup>th</sup>, and our high was 46. In all we averaged about 40 for the season, but it seemed every service was “electric” with anticipation, needs, and God’s presence. Most Sundays we saw first-timers.



Typical Sunday Worship Service



\$2,000 to New Life Pregnancy Center



\$2,000 to Crossroad Mission

Two things have amazed us about this season in Yuma. One has been how God has used the circumstances to draw people closer together and also cause some who had been primarily “spectators” into people who rose to the occasion and volunteered to assume needed duties. The other was how generous the people were in their offerings. In spite of averaging in the mid 30’s overall, our offerings averaged almost \$600 per week. At the end of the season we not only had about \$4,000 on hand for “start up” funds for next season, but we also gave away \$6,900 to other ministries in Mexico, Yuma, and other places. It was amazing to see.

Bob has rarely received such expressions of appreciation and thanks for his sermons. One man who never attends church “back home” and is not a professing Christian came almost every Sunday and at least four times went out of his way to thank Bob after service for the sermon. In that we video taped all 21 sermons, they also got lots of views from numerous states and several countries. The theme for the year was “Singing I Go Along Life’s Road” in which Bob dealt with topics like joy, God’s mercy, Thankfulness, Bright Light For dark Days, Our Mighty Fortress, victory in spiritual warfare, praise, and (his final sermon) Going Out With Joy and Being Led Forth in Peace (Isa 55:12).



Video Title Page of Bob’s Final Sermon



Bob “Waxing Eloquent”



Tuesday Morning Ladies’ Bible Study

One of the great blessings was how God used weekly Bible studies. The ladies met weekly, but instead of the men’s group meeting since so few were able to attend, we did one in our Park Model three times each Wednesday, and had another one on Thursdays for those outside the park. So, five times each week we were watching Ray Vander Laan’s series on God bringing the Children of Israel out of Egypt and into the Promised Land. The timeliness of each session was uncanny. (No pix available.)

Anyone who knows us remembers that we love to entertain people in our home. The COVID-19 pandemic made that love more useful, and on numerous occasions (Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year, etc.) we were blessed to enjoy fellowship with Chapel members in our little Park Model – the very reason LUM bought it. Also, Jo Ann felt the need for the ladies to have an opportunity to simply chat and fellowship together, so every Friday morning Bob stayed out of the way at his desk, and Jo Ann hosted ladies with “Coffee and Chatting On The Porch”. It ended up being so vitally important, and the first meeting at least three ladies came to her with tears in their eyes indicating just how much they needed that because so many friends were not able to come.



Christmas Dinner with Chapel Friends



Leadership Appreciation Luncheon



Ladies’ Coffee ‘N’ Conversation on the Porch

As of last Sunday our official ministry here has ended, but we are hosting an informal gathering of 20 or so folks on Easter for coffee, donuts, singing, and the Lord’s Supper. Then we leave this next week to begin our 4 day journey to our home in Missouri, remaining there until mid May when we return to AZ for our sixth year of ministry with Greer Chapel. Hopefully things will be much less uncertain and fearful than last Summer, and we’ll see that ministry return to its former size and joyful disposition.

By now you can see that, while almost everyone else is in Yuma or Greer for vacation or “down” time, it is far from that for us. Whatever “down” time we have is six weeks in MO trying to catch up on all the maintenance and repair work needing to be done around “home”. But we would not trade places with anyone for anything. We have never been with so many anxious, fearful, tentative, worried people who are facing their own mortality in an uncertain future. They need someone to give them hope and joy. We hope that we are filling the bill.

**+ Some of our Partner Ministries:**

We've not heard from some of our "partner" ministries with whom we have worked or supported, so we can't give you a clear update on everyone. We know that COVID-19 has almost certainly impacted all of them, and it has been extremely difficult for some. Here's what we Do know.

> **Arto and Tania Llopiz Mujunen:** Arto and Tania are still in London where he works from home and Tania is now a trained imaging technician in a nearby hospital. Her mother, sweet Luci, has come from Cuba to live with them. They have been challenged both by COVID-19, and also restrictions and challenges because of it. We try to talk with them on Skype or Zoom every few weeks. They are well in spite of Luci's health issues.

> **The Colons and Global Partners Missionary School:** Joel and Ira are some of our dearest friends with whom we have been linked together in ministry and friendship since 2005 when Ira served as Bob's translator at St. James Bible College in Kyiv. Joel helped us start the Spanish church in Kyiv. Today they minister through their coffee and flower shop (in the process of relocating), through One Challenge International, and through the Global Partners Missionary School they began as a training and sending agency from Ukraine. COVID-19 and its fallout has taken a heavy toll both on them personally and on the training school as Joel contracted the virus and as four of their missionary teams recently trained to go back to a number of unnamed countries were stranded and unable to go. Yet, God used it to place them in strategic Ukrainian towns to help plant churches and minister to people there. Joel also helps develop scripts and Bible studies for the Farsi work. We do hope you will pray fervently for them and for the perfect location for their coffee and flower shop.



Tania and Arto, London



Irena and Joel, Kyiv



Iryna and "Mo", E. Eur.



"M2". "F". and "M", Eur.

> **Farsi Ministry** – Perhaps one of the most significant pieces of news from the Farsi ministry is that both "M" and "M2" recently contracted COVID-19, were both hospitalized, and just last Tuesday were both released from the hospital with some degree of lung damage. But, praise God that they are in full recovery mode. We talked with "M" recently via What'sApp, followed up by a series of text messages, and continue to be amazed at how God continues using the ministry. He messaged us Friday that he tires easily and gets dizzy quickly.

"F" is now married and lives in Frankfurt. He continues monitoring the online Farsi language library and also continues translating for the German church in Giessen, continues working with the Christian coffee house, leading the Farsi work in Giessen and providing leadership coordination for the numerous Farsi groups around the greater Frankfurt area. He also works as a computer programmer for a train station in Frankfurt.

"M" gave us a recent update about the ongoing expansion of the Farsi work in general. For the past couple of years the video production has been greatly reduced because of the closing of the CBN studios in Kyiv where they did all their video production. After various attempts to use other private studios, funds were provided for them to purchase their own video equipment and they have created their own studio. So they are steadily getting up to speed on video production that is posted on their Facebook and YouTube pages (along with others), and also on their website,

Health and logistical setbacks notwithstanding, the ministry continues to make enormous impact on the Farsi speaking world as mentoring and training continue via social media connections, video message are being broadcast, Bibles are being printed and "distributed" into Afg---- and Ir---, and new Farsi churches are being planted in numerous cities around the world, the most recent this past November in the country of Georgia. However, danger is still great. Just recently two of their workers in Ir--- were arrested.



Bibles Ready to be Smuggled in to ...



Christian literature ready to be sent



Sermon Posted on Social Media sites

We mentioned earlier that a church had been planted in Belgrade, and now another has been planted in Armenia and another country we can't remember. Two weeks ago "M" told us they plan to plant at least 20 new Farsi churches. They are currently reaching deep into numerous closed countries and in many refugee camps in western Europe. Social media online ministry is still growing, and they are now reaching about 200,000 people per WEEK. "M2" leads worship services each week online for new church plants where they do not yet have a pastor. They continue to post videos of preachers like John MacArthur, Charles Stanley, and others, using voice-overs and dubbing into the Farsi language.

> **Arise Ukraine** – As we wrote in August, Paul Logan was the very first missionary to welcome us to Ukraine when we first arrived in January, 2003. We have been dear friends ever since, and believe strongly in his ministry of evangelism, leadership training, and ministering to needs of others. Again this year we were privileged to financially support the efforts to provide heat to people suffering in the conflict area of eastern Ukraine where Russia has again launched attacks against a sovereign nation. As sub-zero temperatures descended on Ukraine, they were able to supply 72 families with 45 tons of coal, 52 dump-truckloads of wood and 17 family-packs of food (bread, sausage, cheese, vegetables, butter, oil, grains, condensed milk, etc ) for the poor. You can check that ministry out established by Paul in 1997 at <https://ariseukr.com/ministries/>.

In recent weeks, Russia has begun raising its head along the Donbas border, clearly trying to intimidate the Ukrainian people and negotiators prior to upcoming talks to resolve the years-long conflict in that region and Crimea following Russia's invasion and take-over of the areas. Pro-Russian forces are still fighting in eastern Ukraine, and recently several Ukrainian soldiers were killed.



Paul's Youth Evangelism Training



Village Evangelism Outreach



Fuel for winter in Donbas Region

> **Sergey in Ulan-Ude** -- We seldom hear from Sergey and Inna regarding their ministry in Siberia, and have wondered about their welfare during the pandemic. About a week ago he posted the following on his Facebook page – *“Throughout the pandemic, our team of people with big hearts have done a lot of work helping people. We were supported in this by the deputies of our district, administration, school, many ordinary and sacrificial people. We could park our cars, buy grocery packages and drop them off, take doctors to work. Together we did good and helped many people on the Left Bank. Let's hope that the epidemiological situation will improve. Thank you all for your support.”* In another post he described a recent “father and children” outing where they invite fathers to come with their children for some “fun” time hiking, sledding, eating, and hopefully building relationships and strengthening fathers’ understanding of their important role in raising children.

+ **Looking Ahead:**

To be quite honest, the past year+ has been one of complete unpredictability and pure faith walking. We suspect you feel the same way. And it appears it will be no different for the foreseeable future. God is calling America back to Himself, and America is not listening. Even much of the Church is not listening. In the meantime, this situation calls us to pro-active Christianity – NOT Reactive. Our country is in the most precarious position it has been since the Civil War in our opinion, and we are in grave danger of losing it as we have known it. The call for broken repentance and compassionate intercession has never been greater – and it must begin with those of us who claim to follow Christ. God will not tolerate our sin indefinitely.

We have been many places in many ministries the past 65 years, but we have never seen such openness of hearts and abundance of opportunities as we see now. We never dreamed that at our ages we would still be serving the Lord in the way we are, and especially to the people to whom we minister. We've not seen such apprehension, anxiety, uncertainty, and fear as we do now. One of the easiest things to do these days is turn a conversation toward spiritual things.

For this reason, we are reveling in the doors God has opened. And, those doors are also challenging us to even newer challenges and opportunities. Perhaps we will have more to say later, but for now, we can't thank you enough for praying for us, for standing with us and for supporting us financially. This is truly a partnership ministry, and you are part of the partnership. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

**One Final thing:** In light of Easter, we want to share this link to one of the most beautiful songs we've ever heard on the death and resurrection of Jesus. Set to the tune of the popular “Hallelujah” song, these two sisters from Ontario, Canada, posted this recently and in a week it registered over one million views. Whatever else goes on in life, Easter puts everything in proper perspective. Watch this song at . . .

[https://www.godtube.com/watch/?v=1C911JNU&utm\\_source=GodTube%20Must-See%20Video&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=GodTube%20Must-See%20Video&utm\\_content=4582619&recip=521085018&fbclid=IwAR1RMhivC-41ySqrD\\_k0\\_7yD\\_0ayFSI1xJTodPXIq\\_TO4wTMOQglIOBQW2Vw](https://www.godtube.com/watch/?v=1C911JNU&utm_source=GodTube%20Must-See%20Video&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=GodTube%20Must-See%20Video&utm_content=4582619&recip=521085018&fbclid=IwAR1RMhivC-41ySqrD_k0_7yD_0ayFSI1xJTodPXIq_TO4wTMOQglIOBQW2Vw)

HALLELUJAH!!!!

In His Bond, By His grace, and for His Kingdom,  
Bob and Jo Ann (the Tollivers)  
Life Unlimited Ministries, LUMglobal

**If you desire to contact us, do so in one of the following:**  
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P.S. If you have been curious about the video sermons Bob has been preaching, they are all accessible on the Greer AZ Chapel YouTube channel, including those he preached this season in Yuma. Check them out at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwckdkurqjYcPbBS-xz0T6g>. The sermons for all our seasons at Greer since 2016 are also posted.