

Dear friends,

January 2025

Cathy and I would like to share with you some of the opportunities that are coming up this year. First, we ask that you would be in prayer for Cathy as she is preparing for knee surgery on February 18th. This will be a major surgery involving a full knee replacement. Cathy has had consistent knee pain for years, stemming from a car accident when she was a teenager. We've explored many alternatives, and at this point, knee replacement seems like the only option. During her recovery, I plan to attend as many deputation meetings as I can. I will be focusing on Florida and Tennessee from March to May. In addition to the missions conferences we will be attending, we currently have four major areas of ministry this year.

## **Reach the World Conferences**

We have an opportunity to participate in four Reach the World Conferences, sponsored by Macedonia World Baptist Missions. These conferences are held regionally and aim to introduce young people to the prospect of serving in the mission field. We were able to participate in three of these conferences last year, and the Lord worked mightily in the hearts of the students. No doubt, God will use these conferences to raise up laborers.

## Who Will Go Camps

This summer, we will again be working with Who Will Go, training young people for missionary endeavors. This summer is shaping up to be our best year yet as there are many exciting developments at Who Will Go. This year, we have access to a new piece of property specifically designed for missionary training, which includes all the aspects of village life we have always wanted. During these camps, Cathy and I will have two days to present the burden for the Middle East and Muslim ministry to more than 120 students. During these days, we will introduce the students to the culture and cuisine of the Middle East while focusing on the spiritual needs. We could use help for this portion of the camp. Would you be willing to help sponsor the meals and cultural training for the students? The cost of the food and preparation for the Middle East experience will be approximately \$1,000.

## Papua New Guinea: June 23 - July 12th

Ben and I will be returning to Papua New Guinea at the end of June. This trip will be similar to our 2023 trip, but slightly expanded. Our goals are threefold: first, to introduce Americans to the mission field by taking them into the streets and markets to demonstrate methods of evangelism; second, to encourage spiritual and numerical growth among the churches in Papua New Guinea by training national leaders on the principles of discipleship and multiplication; third, we intend to distribute tens of thousands of gospel tracts and possibly preach the gospel to more than 100,000 people during our trip. Our mornings will be filled with open-air market ministry, while the evenings will be dedicated to mass evangelism at the local stadium. Please pray that the Lord will work mightily during this trip. Again, we can use your financial help for this trip. The expense will be \$3,500 to \$4,000 for each of us. Also, if you're interested in joining us, please let me know as soon as possible as we still have room for several more.

## **EUROPE: July - August**

Cathy and I will be returning to Europe in late summer. As the European field director for Macedonia World Baptist Missions, one of our commitments is to encourage and assist our missionaries in Europe and the Middle East. We will likely dedicate six weeks to visiting our missionaries, helping them with outreach, discipleship, and whatever else they may need. When we reach our recommended support level, our budget will allow for trips like this. Currently, our support only meets our family's personal needs; so we would ask that you consider helping us with this trip as well.

This may be our busiest year ever, and we can't wait to get started. We know we have mentioned a lot of needs in this letter, but we must have help to fulfill this ministry, and we are excited to invite you to share in the fruit of our labor! Please ask the Lord if He would have your church give towards one of these needs.

Thank you for your prayers, friendship, and support as we endeavor to make Christ known to the world.

Matt and Cathy Stahlman

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