



SLOVENIA MISSIONARIES TO the Norton family

July 2021

Dear Friends and Family,

At the beginning of this year, I begin to pray about God's direction for my family and myself in the work He has called us to. Many of you have known us for years now, you have prayed for us, and many have supported us financially. I want to thank you, especially now. You do not know how much it has meant to us over the last few months.

In November 1997, while serving in the United States Marine Corps at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, God called me to go to the mission field. It started with a step of faith and trusting God that He could use my life for His glory. It was a Saturday night and I was reading my normal Bible devotions. In my reading I had arrived at Isaiah chapter six. I know most of us are familiar with the call of Isaiah and I was also, but that night it became very real to me personally. I gave my life like Isaiah and said, "Here am I LORD send me!" I imagine that Isaiah envisioned an immediate great national return to God and a great victory for his people. However, God's mission for Isaiah given in the next few verses is far from what I suspect he had hoped. Then God closes His assignment to Isaiah with a promise "your labour is not in vain in the Lord." It will bear fruit.

Since that November night, the most important lesson I have learned has been to trust God, not my will or my plans but yours, God. During the intervening years God has allowed many trials in my life and later in my family's life. I wish I could say that we have passed each with "flying colors" but many have been difficult. There have been many personal failings and many personal victories, but God has always been faithful. God has given me a new verse in our present trial; it is John 5:11. The context is the healing of the bedridden, impotent man at the pool of Bethesda. After his healing he was questioned as to why he was carrying his bed; in verse 11 is his answer: "He that made me whole, the same said unto me, 'Take up thy bed and walk.'" As a young child behind my bedroom door at 77 Church Street, Chatham, NY God made me whole and commanded me to walk. In 1997 God called me to walk in faith and go to the mission field. In chapter 5 of John a few verses further on Jesus finds the healed man and warns him "Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee". The worse sin I could commit is not to trust in God.

We have served faithfully in Slovenia now for over six years. We have done as God has commanded and directed. We are thankful for each opportunity that He has given us to witness and share the Gospel with these needy people. We do not believe that God is finished in Slovenia, but God is directing us to take another step of faith with Him. Many of you will remember that when we first came to Europe we served at the Calvary Baptist Church in Aviano, Italy as the interim pastor. Pastor Chris War and his wife replaced us before we moved two hours away to Slovenia. In the years since we have kept a close friendship with Pastor War and the people of the church. Pastor War and I share a desire to not only reach the American military but also the people of this region. Recently Pastor War contacted me and asked me to pray about coming to help him in Aviano. After praying and talking to my pastor I believe that this is the step of faith God is asking us to take. I believe that this is not an end of what we have been doing in Slovenia but the beginning of the next step in God's plan in our lives. Along with this move we also believe that God would have us resign from Macedonia World Baptist Missions and join the Military Ministry of Baptist International Missions, Inc. We are thankful for Macedonia's support over these last sixteen years and it is hard to leave the friends we have made at Macedonia. However, we are looking forward to what God is going to do as we go forward in faith.

At the beginning of the year we would never have imagined that this would be the direction the Lord would give us. I ask for your prayers during this time. In the next few months, we will be making all the necessary arrangements for this move. We are also in the process of being accepted by BIML. We plan to return to the United States at some point before the end of the year. I will try to visit as many of our supporting churches as possible, but I would ask you consider allowing us to report via the internet because of the limited time we have. We have done this with a handful of churches in the past and it has gone very well. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pastor David Gamble, Shenandoah Baptist Church at (423)339-0103 or myself at (706)534-7062. Until November, our support can still be received at Macedonia World Baptist Missions.

Daniel, Christina, Abigail, Gideon, Lydia, Priscilla, and Ezekiel Norton

SENDING CHURCH
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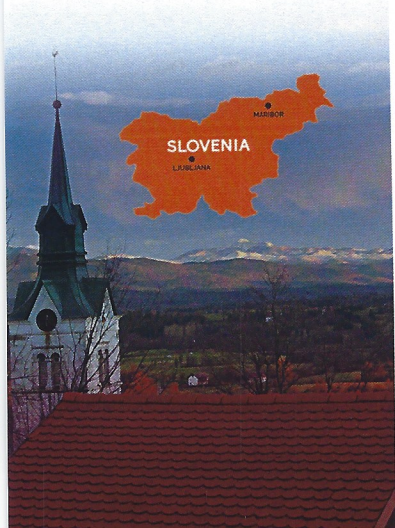
Daniel July 11, 1968
Christina April 17, 1973
Abigail March 27, 2003
Gideon April 1, 2007
Lydia August 11, 2009
Priscilla July 9, 2011
Ezekiel November 29, 2014

Anniversary July 13, 2001



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**"...For there is no restraint
to the Lord to save
by many or by few."
I Samuel 14:6**





Assisting the local church and the missionary
in reaching the world with the Gospel

August 6, 2021

Re: Daniel and Christina Norton

Dear Pastor and Supporters:

I am writing to inform you that Brother Daniel and Christina Norton have resigned as missionaries with Macedonia World Baptist Missions. There is a mutual agreement that this resignation is best for Macedonia and also for the Nortons. The Nortons have served with Macedonia in Kyrgyzstan, Italy, and most recently in Slovenia.

To help with their transition, Macedonia World Baptist Missions will continue receiving support for the Nortons through November 30, 2021.

Please remember Brother and Mrs. Norton and their children in prayer as they seek the will of God for their lives. If you have any questions we can answer, please feel free to call Dr. Roger Baker, our European Field Director, at (336) 813-5166. Thank you.

Yours for Souls,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "M. Dean Hamby". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

M. Dean Hamby
Assistant Director

MDH/kh