

October 2022

For who hath despised the day of small things? Zechariah 4:10a

CONTACT

STATESIDE: 130 SUMMIT DR. EASLEY, SC 29640 WALES: GARMON NEWYDD PANT-Y-DWR, RHAYADER, WALES LD6 5LW 864-905-4671 +44 7440 748014 2WALES4CHRIST@GMAIL.COM 2WALES4CHRIST.COM

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We have begun to keep this verse in Zechariah in our thoughts as we continue to minister to the people here in Wales. As we've expressed before, the people are very kind but slow to change, which is the case both inside and outside the church. Our work here often feels like two steps forward and one step back, but progress is progress. So, as this verse reminds us, we choose to rejoice in even the small things and praise God for all He's doing.

At the beginning of the month, Ron and I were invited to attend a men's campout with several other pastors and missionaries in the UK. It was a fun time of food and fellowship and an excellent chance to encourage one another in the Lord.

The following weekend, we had a meeting for next summer's youth camp. With the travel time, it was a full day of events, but we're excited and hopeful to see great results from youth camp like we did this summer.

I've been invited to preach at a few more chapels in the area, and my preaching schedule is getting fuller all the time. While I enjoy these opportunities to share the Word in other chapels, we're trying to ensure we don't become too busy to focus on growing the chapel in Rhayader. Still, it's been a blessing to get to know more of the people and to fellowship with other believers in mid-Wales. I count it a privilege to be asked to preach for them.

I'm continuing to work with Randall in doing some updates and renovations around his home. He's been grateful for my assistance, and I am thankful for the open door to witness. Additionally, I've resumed my rotational duties with the town luncheon club. Typically, I serve about once every five weeks, but I was asked to fill in for an additional shift this month as someone else had to be out.

We thank you for the many prayers for Dana's recovery. Her back is much better though it is taking a while for her to build her energy and stamina back to full strength. She continues to serve as the pianist at the chapel and also takes care of creating our promotional materials, banners, and flower arrangements. She's been able to get settled into a more regular writing routine of late and has restarted her devotional blog. She's also working on a couple of new books, so she's had her hands full lately, but she's thrilled to be writing regularly again.

The Lord has blessed us with many opportunities to serve Him, and one of those opportunities came in the form of our new dog, Tess. We both love dogs and have had a dog in the family until our deputation journey. We had hoped to adopt another dog once we were settled. We had just started looking when Dana came across an ad for a family needing to re-home their 5-year-old terrier. Something about the dog and her situation touched Dana's heart, and she felt Tess was the right dog for us. After meeting the precious pup, I agreed.

Tess has already become a part of our family and is filling our home with lots of joy and laughter. She's also been an excellent tool for ministry. Dana's had multiple opportunities to witness to those who just wanted to stop and pet the dog. We joke that her name, Tess, stands for Tell Everyone Salvation's Story.

Many of you have sent cards, emails, and well-wishes our way, and we cannot thank you enough. It's such an encouragement to know you're thinking of and praying for us. It's easy to get so busy with the ministry that we fail to minister. We don't want to be guilty of that. Please continue to pray for the people of Wales and for us to have the wisdom to pursue God's best for us and not simply settle for good things.

In Christ's Hand, Jason and Dana Rongione

Missionaries to Wales JASON AND DANA RONGIONE