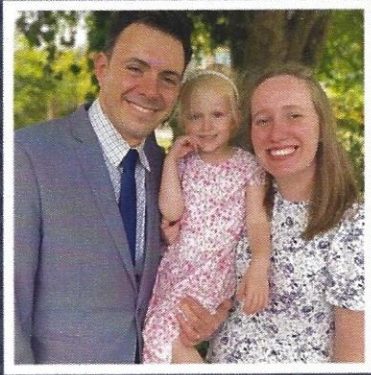
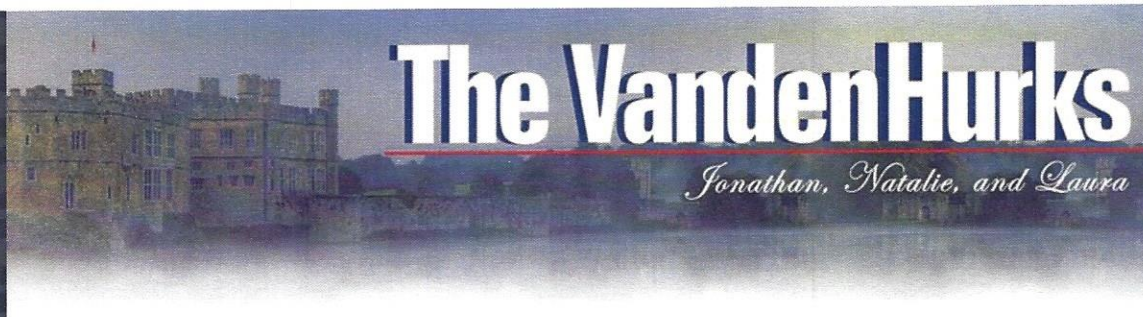


HAPPY
Christmas



LOVE, THE VANDENHURK FAMILY



The VandenHurks

Jonathan, Natalie, and Laura

Dear Pastors and Praying Friends,

December 20, 2022

The Wonder of Christmas

If not careful, it can all become too familiar. In order to help rediscover the wonder of Christmas, I preached about five questions in the Christmas passages: 1) Whereby Shall I Know This? 2) How Shall This Be? 3) Whence Is This To Me? 4) Where Is He That Is Born King? and 5) How Is It That Ye Sought Me? **We are full of wonder at the continued opportunity we have to partner with you in sharing the Gospel in the U.K.**

Outreach

Johnny, whose baptism I mentioned in our last letter, continues to grow and study the Bible with me each Friday. He has an amazing gift of engaging young people in conversation and has led many to the Lord. He is able to evangelise full time with another member named **Pete**. They were recently **arrested** in a nearby village market for preaching, but were released at midnight without charge. We work together on Mondays and have seen a good number come to Christ. Of course, **Christmas** provided a unique opportunity to sing carols in the centre and give out around **5,000** themed Gospel tracts.

Holiday Bible Club

At the end of October, we had our annual Holiday Club (VBS) during the kids' half-term break. Praise God the Community Centre said yes, so we were able to invite more than last year, with **65 young people** enjoying "Zoomerang: Returning To the Value of Life." One young lady placed her faith in Christ, and the Bible lessons were so valuable for them to hear. We are thankful for so many **volunteers**.

Teens

The group of young people that come are growing in the Lord. They were a tremendous help at the **Bible Club** and a recent Sunday

School Christmas Presentation. They take God's Word seriously, but are also loads of fun to be around. We've enjoyed taking them to National Youth Rallies, singing at the Crown Christmas Party, and ice skating.

Other Special Events

- The **Harvest Service** in October is the UK's way to express thanksgiving to God, and is a highlight of each year. In the evening, we had an **International Dinner**, with over 15 countries represented in the food, a small taste of the ultimate international meal at the future Marriage Supper of the Lamb!
- Some of our men enjoyed traveling to Brimpton Baptist Church for a men's conference and **camping trip**.
- We rejoiced with Ruben and Crina's family in a **baby dedication** for their son Benjamin.
- Ruben also **preached** his first sermon in English (he is originally from Romania).
- We enjoyed **helping or visiting friends** from Gainsborough Baptist Church, East Birmingham Baptist Chapel, Trinity Baptist Church (Market Harborough), and Calvary Baptist Church (Hartlepool). We rejoice with CBC Hartlepool that **Rob and Amanda Smith** will soon be moving there to help the Pavitts with the ministry!

Personal News

- **Natalie's cousin** Karleen was on life support but has recovered.
- We all were **poorly** at times during November, including Jonathan with an extended infection throughout the month.
- We enjoyed visiting the Lake District with **my parents** and Wolverhampton for Thanksgiving with 45 other Americans.
- We look forward to Christmas with Mom and Dad, but are sad to think they soon will be going home after such a wonderful extended time of **three months** with us.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Jonathan + Natalie
VandenHurk
2 Corinthians 9:15



P.O. Box 519
Braselton, GA 30517
706-654-2818
www.mwbm.org

PHOTOS: Christmas card, International Dinner Carolling, Ice Skating, Teens leading singing, Holiday Bible Club, Johnny & Pete, Laura as Mary, With my parents in the Lake District

