



The VandenHurks

Jonathan, Natalie, and Laura

DEAR PASTORS AND PRAYING FRIENDS,

April 2025

Natalie and I hope you had a wonderful Resurrection Sunday! Natalie took this photo after church, a beautiful reminder of God's mercy and faithfulness in a world fit for judgement. We praise God for His promises, and look up in hope to see Christ working in our lives and in the lives of others.



After preaching in Budapest, at the new year on our way back to England we stopped in Malta for a few-day layover. It was an honour to pray in a New Year in the place Paul with shipwrecked mariners once spent a winter. We saw catacombs of first century Christians and in the Maritime Museum, we found one of the four Roman anchors from Paul's shipwreck!

God can use detours! On that note, on arriving home, we experienced a number of challenging unspoken situations in the congregation in January through March, plus a month of illnesses in February (we all had the flu and Natalie experienced a bad flare-up of Crohn's). We can honestly say the Lord has given help through each of these, and strengthened us in the process.

Two men were saved in the city centre this week, and we also rejoice almost weekly at multiple salvation testimonies through the ministry of Johnny Basedeke in Nairobi, Kenya. You may remember me writing of his salvation, baptism, graduation from our Bible school, and move to Kenya. He continues to study with us online each Friday, along with two others, Gideon and Tyson. They take what they learn each week and teach it to a school full of young people. These faithful young men embody 2 Timothy 2:2! May we all have such a heart to "teach others also!" Praise the Lord for a wonderful team of 10-15 helping evangelise our community on a weekly basis, and the same number studying weekly in the School of the Bible and with Natalie in Ladies' studies. About thirty came for a special Saturday School of Evangelism in February.

Besides the preaching of God's Word, our congregation has also been strengthened by fellowship and teaching opportunities at a recent Chilli "Cook-off," our annual Ladies' Tea, a Men's Breakfast about God's creation of the stars, and regular youth groups. I was also honoured to teach a class on missions at Crown Hall, where I was a student twenty years ago, and to preach at another Gospel Mission with them in the Netherlands. They were also a blessing to our church and many others, in organising another Winter Retreat in Wales and a National Youth Rally event for the teens, where Pastor Derrick Morlan's sermons were a great challenge. Two of our young adults are praying about attending future studies at Crown Hall.

Praises: Praise the Lord for Laura turning six years old - THANK YOU for the cards and messages! Please pray for our friends in South Africa, Josh and Meagan Sullivan. I grew up with them both in Youth Group in Maryville, TN. Josh was kidnapped from their church plant by armed gunmen, and we praise the Lord he was rescued less than a week later in a shootout with police, who said he was "miraculously unharmed."

The congregation continues to grow and be strengthened. We are praying earnestly that a local Methodist Church building, which may soon come up for sale, might be available to us. It is perfect for our need, and the Lord seems to have given us favour with the few local people who meet there. They let us use the building for Easter Sunday, which fit a record number of people for this special day and allowed us to test how the space might work for us. Pray with us next month, that their denomination's regional leaders' decision whether to sell, will be God's will.



Macedonia
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Sincerely yours in Christ,

Jonathan, Natalie, & Laura V.
Ephesians 3:20-21

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SENDING CHURCH

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BIRTHDAYS

Jonathan, 3rd December
Natalie, 2nd June
Laura, 11th March
Anniversary, 27th July

GOALS

- To glorify God in all we do.
- To follow Christ in evangelism and discipleship.
- To plant / replant New Testament Churches.

Missionaries to the United Kingdom

"O Lord, revive thy work in the midst of the years..." Hab 3:2