

January 2024

Dear friends and co-laborers in the Lord,

Another year in the rearview mirror, and a new one has begun. I want to do plenty more for my Lord in twenty-twenty-four. God has been oh so very wonderful to us in 2023. We saw the hand of God move in many and varied ways throughout the year. We are usually quite healthy and able to keep on plodding for the Lord. Carla occasionally has pains in her chest that linger at times. The Doctor didn't find any definite reason. Please pray that we would find the source of the chest pains and that we can get rid of them completely. She has breathing problems and coughs a lot during the winter.

There has been a lot of witnessing in 2023 and thousands heard the gospel through our churches in Africa. Each month souls were saved and baptized. Your prayers and support have produced much fruit and continue to add to the harvest. Changed lives have honored the Lord. Your prayers for spiritual growth and steadfastness in the face of persecution, poverty, and problems have been so vital. Many of our believers have been fighting discouragement. Please keep on praying for them.

In Rwanda, the government has granted the nationals a definitive radio frequency. Thank you for your prayers. Once they fill out and turn in all the applications and all the fees, they will then be able to install transmitters and other equipment and set up to begin broadcasting and preach the gospel to multitudes through the airwaves. They have until February 29 to turn all this in. So, though they say it is definitive they still must go through more red tape and fees. If any of you are led of the Lord to help, please let us know as quickly as possible.

Rwanda is the most densely populated country in Africa. It is very much like New Jersey in that sense. Pray specifically that God would provide the fees, equipment, and materials necessary to get it up and running. Pray for the training of pastors there. To start many churches, it will take manpower. Pray to the Lord of the harvest to call many pastors, missionaries, and evangelists out of the churches that are already there.

During the last two years we have helped several churches in the states that have no pastors. Some of them have told me that if God hadn't sent us to help them, they would have shut down. As I filled their pulpits and worked with them, they not only stopped decreasing in numbers but rather have seen growth and are encouraged. Five of those churches now have pastors and have seen yet more growth. Thank you so much for your prayers. Church planting is a must and that is our focus but strengthening that which remains in dying churches is a glaring need as well. Please keep praying that God would fill me with the Spirit and much wisdom to help many churches.

I had planned a trip to Rwanda and had bought my ticket. I was later contacted that my ticket was canceled. I then planned a trip to Burkina Faso, but the tickets were very expensive. December and early January Holiday travel causes prices to rise. Typically, around mid-January they drop. But they have gone up even more. I plan to go to Burkina Faso now in February. The churches want me to preach a conference and they have around sixty candidates to be baptized. They want me to come to do that and visit our believers and see what God has been doing there. Pray for my safety. It is risky traveling in parts of Burkina. Foreigners have been kidnapped and worse.

Your servants in Christ,
Jeff and Carla Bassett