

Dernlan's TRI-M Tales
Spring 2022

"May your unfailing love be my comfort..." Psalm 119:76

For a child of God, when life becomes so dark you cannot see a ray of light,...only the unfailing love of God can console you. As you know, Sue and I, for the last six months, have gone through an experience like that with our son Matthew. We are thankful God chose to bless him with ongoing life in this world. Now he faces a long, uphill battle of overcoming paralysis and learning to walk. He is also battling against severe nerve pain, primarily in his arms and shoulders. Sue and I have now moved back to Alabama. Matt's wife, Carie, along with the doctors continue to regularly work and care for Matt and his ongoing needs. The family of God, Grace Chapel, Harvest Baptist, Grace Hill, Larue Baptist and many individual brothers and sisters in Christ sustained us during our six months in Ohio. Through each one, and all of you collectively, we experienced "the unfailing love of Christ consoling us."

During the dark days of the COVID lockdown I wrote a book for my children and grandchildren. I titled it "Seeking the City". The book retells some of the special and intriguing ways God worked in Sue's life and mine from the time we became high school sweethearts, until today, when we as "senior sweethearts" look toward stepping into life in eternity. My aim in writing "Seeking the City" was to exalt our saving Lord in the eyes of our children and grandchildren and encourage them to walk through life in this world with lives wholly devoted to Him. The book was our Christmas present to each member of our family. A few friends heard about the book and expressed a desire to have a copy. If you would like to read "Seeking the City", it can be purchased on Amazon. In the search box type "Seeking the City"-David Dernlan.

For the citizens of Ukraine and our brothers and sisters living in that country life became darker than midnight when the Russian army invaded their homeland. We received reports of Pastors and church families refusing to flee even the worst areas as the Russian army attacked. These faithful followers of Christ were committed to being like Christ and serving the needs of their fellow citizens in this terrible crisis. I've received reports indicating that churches and Bible Colleges and Seminaries appear to have been purposely destroyed. Surrounding countries, like Romania, have been overwhelmed with war refugees fleeing into their country. Sue and I were able to team with Grace Hill, Merton, Wisconsin and LaRue Baptist, Ohio and send \$31,000 to our pastors in Romania to help care for the needs of the refugees. Pastor Darrel Schrock made the official bank transfer. "Thanks, Brother".

We recently received this update from Pastor Beni Handaric:

"Dear Brother Dave, Last week we have been invited by some friends who are taking in refugees in their church. We have been helping with transporting refugees from the border Isaccea to Galati, offering some food/coffee/tea and hygiene things to refugees, helping them to find transportation further to Romania and/or accommodation. At the church where the refugees are we helped with cleaning, taking them to shop to buy things they needed, talking with them and giving them emotional support. Last week we sent two vans with food through Isaccea ferryboat to a church in Izmail Ukraine to be sent from there further. We had an evening of prayer and singing for Romania and Ukraine. One song is a plea for Romania and Ukraine to turn to God and ask forgiveness."

Once again, "the unfailing love of God is consoling" His children through the Christ-like lives of His family in the world. Thank you for your Christ-like living. We are blessed to live life with all of you.

We are praying and working on plans for a ministry trip to Romania this fall. Please pray with us for wisdom in planning. Our age and energy don't always match up well with all that our hearts and minds desire to do.

Sustained by His love...sincerely thankful for all of you.

Dave and Sue
II Timothy 2:2 TRI-M