



January 8, 2021

Dear Partners and Friends,

Our prayer is that you had a meaningful Christmas celebration and our family wishes you God's blessings in the new year.



With winter's arrival and increased restrictions, it's even harder to connect with international students. Our Christmas Party in Victoria Park on December 19th

was accomplished in 2 shifts to keep our numbers lower. The lights were on and there was a little bit of snow -- experiencing it for the first time, some students felt like they had stepped into a Christmas movie! Forty bags of Christmas treats, ideas of what to do during their break and links to discover what Christmas is about, were made and assembled the previous day.

Our family hosted 3 students for Christmas Day, down from our normal 18-20 internationals! This included A from India who is working in Guelph now. He recently got a car and asked if he could come to church with us on Christmas Day, like in 2019. Unfortunately there was no service but it was really fun to have him join us again! L from Ecuador is writing her PhD thesis. We were privileged to witness her baptism the end of November! S from India is Hindu and considers us his Canadian family. After such a stressful time it was wonderful to hear their laughter and see their sheer joy.



Two Students and Three **BIG** Answers to Prayer!

For 10 days In November, S had been suffering with unexplained back pain that was interfering with his work, studies and sleep. Mary texted a prayer and the next day S thanked her, saying he was all better! Praise God! Mary told S to thank Jesus the healer. His first words to us at the outdoor Christmas Party were a testimony of how Jesus healed him. We are believing that one day this will be

part of his story of how he comes from Hinduism's 30 million gods to following Jesus the true God. Please pray for S.

D is from Vietnam and has been in our Discovery Group and in our prayers for several years, and increasingly since he graduated last May. Several on the team plus volunteers have developed good friendships with him. As the months passed, we sensed him slipping into depression, unable to find work in his field. Four different prayer groups Mary is part of were lifting him up to the Father, week after week, month after month. He hit desperation and called Stuart late one night last week, and again Stuart told D that what he really needed to do was surrender his life to follow Jesus. Knowing about Jesus and surrendering our life to follow Him are two very different things. We rejoiced with the angels as He made D a new creation, and when we helped him move the next morning the difference in his countenance was noticeable!



D received the gift of Christmas.

**Luke 2:11,14 NLT "The Saviour--
yes, the Messiah, the Lord--has
been born today in Bethlehem, the
city of David! ... "Glory to God in
highest heaven and peace on
earth to those with whom God is
pleased."**

On New Years Day, D invited us to dinner. We shared that we were praying God would give him a job in the next week or so to show D how much He loved him. Four days later, at our Zoom Discovery Group, D was unbelievably exuberant--He couldn't quit giggling and grinning and shared that he got a call that day asking if he could start work in his desired field on January 17th! This is a very happy beginning -- please pray for D.

There was great anticipation that the winter semester was going to be in person but, alas, that has all changed. And some have children now studying online too! Please pray for physical and mental health for students, some of whom have come to Canada and gone through their whole program without ever meeting their classmates!

New students are coming! J from Bolivia arrived Christmas Day. Mary met him online a few months ago and this week he joined our Discovery Group. He was super disappointed to have to continue online AND not be able to use the gym. Connecting with us and some students has made a softer landing for J, but so many are alone.

On December 9th we were interviewed for the Christian Churches Network of London's monthly Zoom meeting. Our constant prayer to the Lord of the harvest is that He will send out workers to intentionally build relationships with international students and share His Good News. If you are interested in listening, click on button below:

[Watch CCNL Presentation](#)

We want to especially share a testimony from Pastor Mark Farrow of Stoney Creek Baptist Church. We are deeply grateful for their partnership in reaching the world that God has brought to London. To Watch the video, click on the button below:

[Pastor Mark Farrow's Testimonial](#)

How can we pray for you? May His grace, mercy and peace fill your hearts and homes and may Jesus give you many opportunities to share His love with those you encounter where you live, work and play.

Stuart & Mary
