- SPRING/SUMMER 2020 -

Canadian Director's Report

Personal newsletter featuring ministry and family updates, greetings and more from Bill Ball.

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A MESSAGE FROM BILL BALL

What began as a normal active year in our lives quickly changed to a lifestyle few of us ever imagined was possible. Enter COVID 19 and global lockdown. This was language we had never spoken let alone even heard of in our busy schedules.

We like so many of you began 2020 entering into a new decade excited with what God would have us accomplish for His glory. The year began with our annual trek to Florida serving at Sunnybreeze Christian Fellowship as pastor for the month of January. These are a special group of "snowbirds" from Canada and the USA who winter in the south. Many wonderful friendships have developed over the last few years.

Returning to the north in February we confirmed travel plans with ministry opportunities in Canada and overseas. Bill headed to California for an SGA US board meeting then it was off to eastern Ontario representing SGA Canada.

March weekends were booked to speak at Albion Hills Bible Church and we did the first 3 Sundays. Bill took a brief but important trip to the SGA US office along with a board member and our new advertising company director. Important discussions were held regarding marketing and moving the mission forward.

On our way home on Friday the 13th we realized that major changes were taking place as we listened to the news. The whole world was closing up and everything was grinding to a halt from what was business as usual. Work from home became the routine of life and has gone well.

Planned trips to Russia and Ukraine were cancelled. Now we are the holders of credits with Air Canada for future flights sometime in the future. The Maritime trip for May was all cancelled as well and will be considered when the government allows inter provincial travel. Our July booking at Elim Lodge representing the mission was also cancelled but already rescheduled for 2021.

That was then, this is now.

Since mid March we have changed how we do ministry along with everyone else. Our Zoom meeting skills have increased dramatically and we produced some SGA update videos with help from wonderfully skilled friends and great supporters. God has been good in allowing us to maintain support to our overseas partners throughout this troubling time. They have reached out despite the restrictions through our Christ over COVID, Much Prayer, Much Power campaign. A daily prayer guide was developed with thousands of people participating.

Our family overseas in South Sudan serving with Mission Aviation Fellowship have remained there. They are safe meeting needs every day within the country. We pray for them and trust God to give them wisdom for the future. Our family in Ontario had work disruptions like many but have returned to a regular format.

We have all adjusted and are trusting the Lord for each step ahead. Thank you for your active support in all that is being accomplished. Yes, life is different but in such a good way. This dramatic point in history has allowed us to reflect on what is most important and make some necessary changes. Our whole world is doing the same and our prayer is that many will turn to Christ as the only hope.

Bill Ball

