

2Corinthians 1:24



CHURCH PLANTING IN ATHENS, GREECE

Sending Church: Valley Forge Baptist
Collegetown, PA



Prayer Requests

- ✓ Revival in Greece!
- ✓ Pray- COVID restrictions & lockdown have been eased despite many new cases & fatalities. Pray for health & safety of Greeks as the gov't tries to salvage the tourist season.
- ✓ Praise! We finally got to meet with our Bible study group after 5 months of online mtgs!!!
- ✓ Pray as the taxes & fees for closing the NGO / church have been very high despite being shut of the building for months.
- ✓ Clinton & Logan; Dr. T.; Marianna & Ariadne (salvation); Sevi (growth); Maria (growth & salvation of family); Siamak & Family (job need)
- ✓ Pray for Joanna's mom, Linda, to recover. Especially for mobility.
- ✓ Pray as we enter this time of medical furlough. For Michael's foot surgery & recovery; caring for Joanna's mom; regrouping our family.

The last year has been difficult for everyone, us included. Covid restrictions have had a great impact on our ministry, but we're also experiencing other problems requiring us to make tough decisions. Many will remember Michael had foot surgery last November for a problem that affects his walking. Last summer, his US doctor recommended a more involved surgery requiring a 7-9 month recovery time as the Achilles must be detached & reattached after the heel bone is cleared. Michael opted for surgery in Greece that was less involved & had a shorter recovery time as he didn't want to lose months of time away from Greece. Unfortunately, the condition has not improved which means the Achilles is at risk of tearing at any time. Beyond this, Joanna's mom has been very ill requiring months of hospital & rehab time. She is no longer able to care for herself. Joanna went to the US in early April and it is necessary for her to be there until a facility is found, her mom's condo cleared & sold, and her other affairs put in order. The timing of all this coincided with the end of our home lease & John's school year.

After much prayer and counsel from both our sending pastor & BIMl field director who are in agreement with us, we believe we must utilize our recommended, available furlough time and return to the States for a medical furlough to address Michael's foot with the proper operation, recovery, and rehab in the US. We will be returning to PA in late May to start the medical process and also concentrate on Joanna's mom's situation. We're storing our household items and will be renting a home large enough for our other children to stay with us. With them in the US and us in Greece, a regular home away from school has meant either living with friends & relatives or returning to Greece, which is quite costly. This situation gives them a more stable, familiar atmosphere as we help them adjust to their new life phases.

Our heart is to be ministering in Greece, and while some restrictions are being eased, indoor gatherings are still severely restricted. The Lord has blessed our online Zoom Bible studies and our livestream services continue to have new viewers. We have regularly advertised across social media, and while the growth is slow, it is bearing fruit. Since everything has been online since last November, we will continue all studies & preaching times normally while we are on furlough. We will also continue to advertise to make new contacts, cultivate relationships through Zoom meetings, and hopefully meet with them after our return. We thank God & you enough for your continued prayers & support.

