

# Prayer Letter from Steve & Dawn Loader



Winter 2022

Prayer Focus and News from BRISTOL

## Psalm 116

*'I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.'*

***A very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!***

### Family

**Natasha** had her 2<sup>nd</sup> child at the very start of this year, named Isla. The family absolutely adore her and those beaming smiles. Elvie is now in Year 1 and enjoying school. Jonathan continues to do well in the Royal Navy.

**Danielle, Sam, Noah and Moses** arrived back in the UK near the end of June. It has been wonderful to have them back and to see our grandsons again. (Moses for the very first time!) Sam is already back in New Zealand, hopefully finding a new home. Danielle and the boys will probably go back to NZ in February 2023.

**Reuben** has started an Art course at Weston College, which he is enjoying and has found that he has a natural flair for it. He continues to keep himself fit at the gym and also continues to enjoy being part of an acting group, which he has now been a part of since he was a child.

**Dawn** keeps busy with family life and being a volunteer at the Children's Hospice shop in Bristol. With all the family regularly at our house, Dawn has provided many meals for everyone and done numerous amounts clothes washing for them all.

**Me;** I'm enjoying family life, though no longer quiet with 4 lively grandchildren. With having young children around us, we have picked up a number of sickness bugs and Covid during the latter part of this year and would value prayers for strength and protection from more sickness.



**Sam, Moses, Danielle and Noah visiting us from New Zealand**



**Reuben, Dawn and myself in St Mawes, Cornwall**



## Ministry to the Seafarers

The ship visiting is pretty much back to normal now after the Pandemic, where I am now able to get inside most ships that come into port. This is so encouraging because I can once again have those amazing conversations about the significance of Jesus Christ.

Many seafarers have had no shore leave in recent months, which has given me concern for their well-being and mental health. So, it has been good to sit and listen to their stories and to give positive input into their lives. I have also been quite active in helping individual seafarers who have had particular needs. One was a Ukrainian seafarer who didn't want to return to his home in Crimea. With the help of Immigration, I was able to get him off his ship and he is now staying in Bristol. I continue to support him in a number of ways, and we are in regular contact with each other. He tells me he doesn't know how he would have managed without my help. Likewise, I don't know how I would have managed without the Lord's help!

I have also supported a seafarer from Myanmar who had his appendix out and then wasn't allowed to fly home for six weeks. We became good friends and shared wonderful conversations together whilst he slowly recovered. He told me I am now his UK family! All these encounters give me the opportunity to show the love of God and point these seafarers to Christ. It has also been good to get an increasing number of the 'Missing Peace'

*'The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.'*

*The Lord protects the unwary;*

*When I was brought low, he saved me.'*

Psalm 116:5-6

## Prayer Points:

- Praise God for bringing the family back together this year.
- Praise God that he has provided all that we need.
- Praise God that I'm back inside the ships.
- Pray for Danielle and Sam to find a new home in New Zealand.
- Pray for fresh anointing on all that he has asked me to do with the ministry to the seafarers and my preaching.
- Pray for my family that they may all hear the Lord's voice and respond to it.
- Please pray that we may follow in the way the Lord wishes to lead us this year.



## Diary Dates:

### January 2023

- 11<sup>th</sup> Begbrook, Bristol
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Edington Chapel
- 24<sup>th</sup> Freshbrook, Swindon
- 29<sup>th</sup> Cromhall, South Glos.

### February

- 5<sup>th</sup> Wrington Chapel
- 6<sup>th</sup> Worle Baptist, WSM
- 12<sup>th</sup> Nailsea Methodist, Bristol
- 13<sup>th</sup> Union Chapel, Combe Down
- 16<sup>th</sup> Speedwell Gospel Hall, Bristol
- 19<sup>th</sup> Sladebrook Church, Bath
- 26<sup>th</sup> Chelsea Christian Centre

### March

- 1<sup>st</sup> Downend Ladies, Downend Baptist
- 5<sup>th</sup> Emmaus Church, Severn Beach
- 7<sup>th</sup> Cameo group, Keynsham
- 12<sup>th</sup> Speedwell Gospel Hall, Bristol
- 26<sup>th</sup> Meare Chapel, Somerset

### April

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Southfield Church, Bristol
- 5<sup>th</sup> Stoke Gifford WI, Bristol
- 16<sup>th</sup> Nant Coch Church, Newport

Radio Bristol's 'Thought for Today' came to an end in November 2020. I did 71 talks in my time and I am grateful to the Lord for that opportunity to share the Gospel far and wide.

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