

AUSTRALIA

February, 2023

Dear Pastor and Church,

With the beginning of a new year we have faced some new problems. We were so happy that we had escaped having the Covid virus for three years. The day after Christmas our son came down with Covid and then his wife. Following them, my wife and I had Covid. One by one for four consecutive days we fell ill. Our son and daughter-in-law had a mild case, while my wife and I had it badly. On the 31st of December I decided to go to the mail box at the end of our drive and see if there was mail. On the way I fell and did not realize I had damaged myself, thinking that the problems I was having was related to Covid. I had trouble getting out of bed and chairs. When we could finally get into the doctor an x-ray showed that I had a compressed fracture in the lumbar region of my spine. If that wasn't enough, my heart rate skyrocketed and the doctor sent me to the hospital by ambulance. I was in the hospital for 3 ½ weeks. What a way to start a new year.

Thankfully some of the men of the church preached in my absence and continue to help as I'm still recovering. This further showed us that we need help in this ministry. A preacher here of another of our churches has also joined in to help. We are presently working on a plan to try to merge our two churches together, but it requires a lot of legal maneuvering so that could take several months. Because we have to report to several government agencies each year, every thing must be carefully arranged to avoid difficulties. The other pastor does not have his own building. Our buildings are completely debt free and would enhance his work as well as give us the needed help in our ministry. Pray that things will run smoothly, and if God opens the doors this will happen.

We are continuing on with our services, and his church joins in our service on Sunday mornings. The other pastor preaches on Sunday mornings as I am still unable to sit or stand for long periods of time.

Pray for Australia. There are over 40 churches needing pastors. Also pray for my wife and I to recover to good health.

Sincerely,
Roger and Sandra Monasmith