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Fwd: FW: Happy New Year - January 2018 Prayer Letter

1 message

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Bcc: Ann.Hayner@gmail.com

Wed, Jan 10, 2018 at 3:40 PM

From: [Missionary Derek Thomas](#)
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 8:02 AM
To: klargentwhbc@yahoo.com
Subject: Happy New Year - January 2018 Prayer Letter

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**January 10, 2018****Dear Praying Friends,**

While in the U.S. we experienced the hand of God in answered prayer concerning Julie's health. The Lord opened a door at the University of Kansas Medical Center, considered the best Cardiology Center in the Kansas City metropolitan area. There we met with a cardiologist, who sat with us for 45 minutes reviewing Julie's case, asking questions and reviewing her file that had been translated into English from the Kiev Heart Clinic. During the consultation the doctor said that he thought he knew what was wrong with

Julie but would like to do an “inverted table test” to prove his diagnosis. We agreed, and on December 20 Julie took the test and tested positive.

The test brought about the same symptoms Julie had in Ukraine, including loss of consciousness. This confirmed the doctor’s diagnosis of Neurocardiogenic syncope. It occurs when there is an abnormal reflex interaction between the heart and the brain, both of which usually are structurally normal. This is not life threatening and can be controlled through lifestyle changes. One of the suggested changes concerns hydration. Julie must increase her water intake, including Gatorade for its electrolytes and potassium. While we do not have Gatorade in Ukraine, we brought some mix to add to her water. Other changes include proper rest. Exhaustion can trigger these symptoms. Thinking back, when we moved here in October we hit the ground running from one end of Ukraine to the other in ministry. Times of planned rest for her between ministry opportunities will be helpful.

We are now settled back in Ukraine and ready to get busy again for the Lord. However, this time with plenty of water, and Gatorade mix by our sides and with a more balanced lifestyle including planned rests. We are very thankful to the Lord for showing us the cause of Julie’s loss of consciousness and that it was not what she was first diagnosed with in Ukraine, ischemia. We give praise to the Lord for the doctors to whom He led us, and the open door at KU Med Center. We continue in praise that our ministry here can remain, with relatively minor changes in our lives. We finally give praise to the Lord for you and for “helping together by prayer for us” which aided in these blessings from above.

Your friends and fellow servants,

Derek and Julie

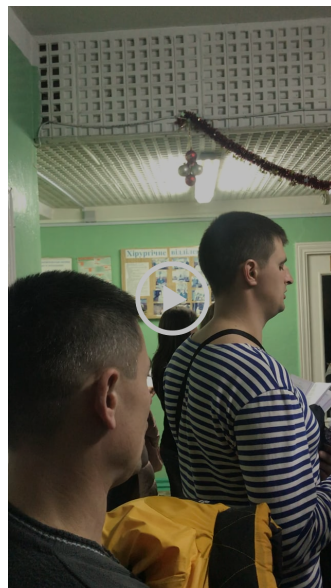


Above is a congregational at Grace Baptist Church's Christmas service this past Sunday. Here in the Orthodox world the Julian calendar is used and January 7 as the date to recognize the first coming of Christ. It is a national holiday. Below I was privileged to be one of the speakers for the Christmas service. This theme never gets old!



Both old and young had a part in the Christmas service. Lyubov (above) is 88 years young and has walked with the Lord more years than most of us have been alive.

During the Christmas service she shared a poem. While below a group of children participated in the service with singing. Both were a blessing and encouragement.



A group from Grace Baptist at a local hospital in Khmel'nitsky singing of the glories of Christmas (above) while sharing the wonderful truth of Christmas (below) with patients and staff that a Savior has come "to save his people from their sins." The Lord blessed with many opened doors and hearts to listen and receive Christian literature.





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