



## February 2025

**"...that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life..." - Philippians 2:15-16a**

A pastor once commented that his task was to help get as many people to heaven as he could, and in the best shape possible. That does sum up Christian ministry well. Paul rounded out his description of service a bit more fully throughout his inscripturated letters, but the essence of his effort was the same. Missionaries today continue to pray and work so that "the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified" (2 Thess 3:1). Thank you for partnering with us for this task in Malta, even as you continue to advance Christ's name in your own communities. I am always struck with wonder and thanks as I consider God's care for us through your hands. Your prayers, regular support, special gifts and faithful correspondence are an encouragement to our family. We depend on God's care through you and for answers to your prayers for us.

We have continued to see the Lord at work the last few months. One man was saved during, or immediately after, one of our Sunday services. He and his wife, already a believer, have immediately begun a ministry of hospitality in their home. If you watch the men's breakfast video linked in the email, you'll see his big Bible on the table in front of him that he quickly ordered from Amazon and spends hours reading each day. Regular and new ladies, saved and unsaved, continue to attend the ladies Bible study on Saturday mornings, looking at the books of Philippians. Last Sunday one of our Chinese ladies had her Chinese neighbours at church with her, their first time in a church. A handful of young men have been attending services and get-togethers regularly and are asking a lot of questions about the gospel. One of them raised his hand with a question during my preaching, and now often approaches me after a sermon, pulling out his phone notebook to bring up a question he jotted down during the preaching. **Pray that we would soon hear of these young people and others placing their faith in Christ for salvation.** It is encouraging to see spontaneous fellowship growing within our church. Some of the young adults recently organised a going away party after church for three young ladies that had spent a few months with us for their studies. Already a group from our church are making plans to go visit them in their home country. This warm fellowship edifies our people and facilitates gospel conversations as visitors are drawn in by the love shown.

In the midst of our ministry, school, and life routines, we enjoy the refreshment of special times with friends and family. Some of those times come during visits with

families and friends living here, and sometimes with those who come to visit Malta. After seven months in Canada, Rowan was able to make a trip to visit us for twelve days at the end of January. We were all thrilled to spend time together. He has recently had an extended relapse of his nephrotic syndrome and is on the mend now. **Pray for his health to be stable.** This was the first flare-up in a couple years.

Next week we look forward to having my sister, her husband, and family with us for a week. The Berasngars are missionaries with Baptist Mid-Missions and are stopping to see us on their way to begin their first term of service in Obed's home country of Chad. Mutual ministry friends serving in South Africa plan to join us at the same time, and the day they all leave, a supporting pastor and good friend will arrive to be with us for 5 days. We anticipate rich fellowship, laughter, and the joy of showing them the Maltese islands and what God is doing here. As we look ahead over the next months, we anticipate having two BMM First Look interns with us from May-July.

Continue to pray for our strength. We mention that every letter, and mean it every time. Pray for us to have godly wisdom for shepherding our people and answering the questions of inquirers. Again, we mention that often. With so many nationalities of people and various stages of understanding regarding the Christian faith, we always need to be on our toes. Pray for the continued development of leaders who will carry more and more responsibility, and pray for our BMM teammates the Mifsud and Tanis families. May the Lord be glorified through the building of his church in Malta!

Thank you for standing with us.

In Christ,

Josh, Erica, Rowan, Kian, Selah, and Naya Burrill

Photos: Sunday worship, fellowship afterward, a visit from Rowan, enjoying the great outdoors.

