

### **Pastor Bob and Jeanne Claycamp's Poimen Ministry Newsletter Update:**

Greetings from sunny Devon, England! Jeanne and I are so thankful for your prayers and support. These past four months have been an adventure of a lifetime! Some of you already are aware of what we have been through with our visa situation. Some of you will be hearing it for the first time. So allow me to just summarise.

#### **VISA ADVENTURES**

When a missionary comes to the UK to minister, they must first be sponsored by a sponsoring agency, much like an employer bringing over a migrant to work under their company. Calvary Chapel Bible College - York (CCBC - York) was our sponsoring agency. But unlike a sponsored migrant, working say for Tesco, missionaries must raise their own support outside of the UK. Because of the unusual nature of the 'sponsored worker/not-paid-in-the-UK' status it has always been somewhat of a mystery for the UK to know how this should be treated. In the past years it was waived through because the forms had no box to tick for this particular category.

But things began to change this past autumn. Under a supervisory audit by UK Visa and Immigration, CCBC - York was determined to be negligent according to the new rules and had their license suspended in November. This also meant our visas were on hold until this could either be straightened out, or if the sponsor's license was revoked, we would have to find another sponsoring agency (ministry) under which to work.

When we left on furlough for the states on Dec. 31, our immigration status with the UK Visa and Immigration office was uncertain awaiting the outcome of the appeal by CCBC - York. On Jan. 8 we received notice that their license had indeed been revoked. We were at the missions conference in CA when we received that email. No one knew for certain if we would be able to even get back into the UK. The two churches in Exeter and Wotter were being managed by the existing British elders and leadership. But no solid answers were forthcoming. It was an uncertain time for all.

Pastor Bob and Jeanne giving a quick update at the Missions Conference

After much prayer Jeanne and I decided that we must at least try to come back into the UK and make application under a new sponsor (Inverness Bible Fellowship, Inverness, Scotland). Plus we would need to hand-carry the visa applications into the premium service centre by the end of February. We already had the tickets for our return flight booked for Feb 3. We

boarded the flight in faith and were let back into the UK without a problem. The churches were overjoyed and we were so relieved just to get back to our home here in Exeter, sit down and thank the Lord!

Ready to take our chances to return to the UK

God had specially provided the extra funds needed to obtain our new 3 year Ministry of Religion visas. We traveled up to Cardiff, Wales (the closest centre) on Feb 24 and presented our paperwork. It did require a bit of explanation in certain areas (the same issues regarding income and support). A few hours later we received our new 3 year visas. Yea!

Now we look forward to what the Lord has for us here over the next three years, if He tarries. I believe we still have that same three-fold vision in front of us we had two years ago:

- 1. To pastor this church in Exeter;**
- 2. to help raise up British spiritual leadership  
especially for here in the southwestern part of England;**
- 3. to come alongside other pastors and wives as a part of our Poimen ministry  
both within and without Calvary Chapel churches.**

#### **FEBRUARY-MARCH:**

After arriving back in England, Jeanne and I restarted Solomon's Porch (SP) University outreach in our home. This was the largest group of students we have had to date packed into our house. The set up this time was to serve the meal for them (lasagna), have a time of worship, give a short exhortation on the reliability of the Bible, and then open it up for questions. Twenty-five questions and answers later it was 10:30 pm! This question/answer time was exactly the reason we set up SP in the first place. Our second gathering of SP in Feb was a 'HOT POT' night set up at the church, with six hot pots and tons of food to celebrate the Asian new year.

Getting set up with six 'HOT-POT's for Solomon's Porch Uni Outreach

Jeanne had the chance to take the train into London and attend the Women's conference at Calvary South London. Cheryl Brodersen was the guest speaker. She also began a new women's study on the Fruit of the Spirit for the ladies of Calvary Exeter.

The first weekend of March we were asked to come to the southeastern corner of England and minister to Deal Christian Fellowship, Deal, England (just northeast of Dover). We had the opportunity to share with their youth group on Saturday night, and then teach from the Word on Sunday morning.

Last autumn I was asked to be on the steering committee for the Exeter Evangelical Partnership (EEP). This is a group of about 25 - 30 evangelical leaders over ministries in Exeter that meet together for encouragement, information and prayer. I was asked to teach at their March meeting. I chose 1 Corinthians 13 and made special appeal to let God's love rule over plans and program-orientation.

Jeanne and I did have a chance to have a brief get-away in celebration of our new 3 year visa. We booked a B&B along the north Cornwall coast (Padstow) and also visited a few coastal towns and villages. The British TV series 'Doc Martin' is filmed in one of those cities, Port Isaac. This two day get-away was also a time of thanksgiving and prayer over what is ahead of us in the coming months.

## **APRIL-MAY**

One of the men in our church is part of a breakfast-prayer group that meets monthly down in the Torbay area of Devon. I was asked to share my ministry testimony over the years. It was a tremendous blessing to watch how the Lord used the simple exhortations to letting His love and Spirit guide and direct all ministry.

Two of our ministry helpers, Steve and Barb Tessitore, had to return to the states in November to care for their injured son, Steven. He was wounded while serving our country in Afghanistan. The Army flew all three of them back to San Antonio, Texas where Steven received extensive surgery and ongoing therapy. The Army even paid Steve and Barb as being non-essential care givers while they were there helping their son. Now they have received their new one-year charity worker visa and are back in the UK serving.

I've been invited to teach at a church here in Exeter on May 10. They do not have a pastor right now and are at a crossroads as to what direction their church is going to take in the next few months.

Also, I've been contacted to share with the Evangelical Christian Union on campus for their small group afternoon on Wednesday, May 13.

Jeanne will be teaching at a Women's Conference in Portugal in May and I will join her later the following week for a few days.

One final note: we have been blessed to have had two interns with us since September, Molly Kruzel from Maricopa, Arizona, and Franz Weiss, from Herborn, Germany. Molly has been involved with helping minister to the University students and also handling some administrative things as well as helping to teach the children at our church. Franz has been one of our main worship leaders and has also worked alongside the students with worship and ministry. They will both be missed greatly, not only by the two fellowships of CC Exeter and Wotter Community Church, but by Jeanne and me as well.

Interns Molly Kruzel and Franz Weiss

## **COMING MONTHS:**

- we will be attending the UK Pastors and Leaders Conference **June 8-10**, York, England
- I will be traveling back to the states to attend the Senior Pastors Conference, **July 6-9**, Costa Mesa, CA
- CreationFest UK **August 1-8**, Wadebridge, Cornwall
- we will be on holiday with Jeanne's sister and brother-in-law in Wales, **August 8-15**
- we will be attending the Missions Conference in Austria, **August 17-20**, Millstadt, Austria

## **PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- \*\* still waiting for National Health Service to give Jeanne her appointment date for her hysterectomy surgery. Hopefully it will take place after May 21**
- \*\* wisdom and courage to continue discipleship to raise up British spiritual leadership**
- \*\* Online, video interactive School of Ministry hopefully to begin in September for British participants**

Jeanne is posting regular updates to her blogsite: <http://thepilgrimsheart.blogspot.com> You can also hear the teachings I have been giving at Calvary Chapel Exeter and Wotter Community Church at this link: <http://www.calvaryexeter.co.uk>

All Poimen support monies now should be mailed to this address:

**Pastor Bob and Jeanne Claycamp**

**14201 N 32nd St, Phoenix, Arizona 85032**

There is also an online donation PayPal link toward the bottom of my website page at <http://www.bobclaycamp.com/html/contact-donate.html> (note: PayPal subtracts a small percentage of the amount donated before it gets to us.) You can also set up online bill pay through your bank or credit union that will automatically send an amount each month. Please use the POIMEN MINISTRY address listed above and mark on a separate piece of paper: **For Pastor Bob and Jeanne Claycamp.**

Thanks again for taking the time to read our newsletter and to pray for us.

Our email addresses are:

Pastor Bob Claycamp: [bobclaycamp@gmail.com](mailto:bobclaycamp@gmail.com)

Jeanne Claycamp: [gneec7@gmail.com](mailto:gneec7@gmail.com)

[www.bobclaycamp.com](http://www.bobclaycamp.com)

[poimenministries.com](http://poimenministries.com) (click on our picture in the right column on the Poimen website)

Our US phone number is 602-812-2972 (free internet phone, but data charges may apply to your plan)

Poimen Ministries is now a 501c3 tax-exempt non-profit corporation!