

Hot off The Press

News from Peter and Kay Goodchild at Emmanuel Press in South Africa

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Greetings to you from two would-be travellers grounded in these present conditions. Thank you for your care, interest and support as we wait and wonder. Take a moment to read our March musings... there's mystery, mundane and even the maverick(?)

We're still 'sitting' in our English home 'enjoying' the typical March weather. The other day we were able to enjoy a snack lunch in the garden sunshine. Today with clouds, rain and winds on the outside, we busy ourselves with a variety of indoor tasks: bread making; fixing a mirror in the guest room; building bookshelves in an alcove to empty yet another box of good books and Kay took a half hour brisk walk into Cranbrook.



While we still wait for any signs of when the London South Africa Visa Offices may open, or news of possible flights to Jo'burg, our days are filled with activity indoors and outside.



Most days we are in touch with our friends in South Africa and the ministry of Emmanuel Press, either through emails, WhatsApp or phone conversations. It's quite amazing what one can do with these avenues, but I don't think I'll ever become an expert with Zoom.

Our imaginations are teased as we try to calculate when our plans can begin to roll forwards. But like everyone else, we can't plan too far ahead with so much unknown. With the predictability of living being redirected, the simple issue of trusting in God takes on a new clarity. I've enjoyed reading through the gospels again and trying to put myself in the picture actually watching it

all happen; it's extraordinary, wonderful and amazing as Jesus reveals the extent of His powerful love, His Father's wisdom and bringing heaven's kingdom near. I've enjoyed times at the piano just to worship, and allow His heart to reach me.



There are such a mix of emotions; we're wanting to return to the place of our calling, but prevented, then wanting to visit friends near and far who love and support us, but not allowed, and then wanting to get this house and garden into shape after several years of neglect, we're torn in preferences. Add to that, with several ongoing symptoms, it seems to strongly indicate 'long Covid' is an ongoing challenge. Some days are better than others, but summed up in this: "not really feeling 100% these days". We did dust off our 'Toucan Tandem' the other day and cycled in to Cranbrook for a spot of shopping... I was completely exhausted after that. So the mix of rest and exercise needs to be right for a soon hoped for good recovery.



It was good to be virtually present at another church the other week, preaching on YouTube and a happy zoom with our friends there, and the occasional chat with various friends near and far. Apparently life in SA has returned to near 'normal' for many, where restrictions are a little more flexible and 'masked' by plenty of other issues.

Let me close with four clear prayer requests. Please pray that:

- We continue to walk in FAITH through these uncertain times.
- I (Peter) am soon restored to good HEALTH and strength.
- God will bring His PERSONS to be involved in this chapter at EP.
- The JOY of The Lord to be our strength.

Thank you, with our love,

Peter & Kay



We've enjoyed walking in nearby woodlands

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