

August - September 2022

Sterling Family

TO SIBERIA



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Dear Praying Friends,

Thank you for your prayers over the past months. July and the beginning of August have been a wonderful time for us. In early July we were able to be with four churches that have been supporting us for nearly all of our years on deputation and on the field. We then had opportunity to spend a day in Gladwin, Michigan, and meet members of the Sterling family whom we have never met. I was privileged for the first time in my life to meet my uncle's widow. Along with my Uncle Ken (whom I met for the first time the day prior to this) and my aunt Carol, we drove to a cemetery where I was able to visit the gravesite of First Lieutenant David Walter Sterling (MCSN: 0-100702), the man after whom I am named.

July finished with us visiting a number of churches in West Virginia where my wife's family is from. We enjoyed being able to spend time with family and preachers who have faithfully supported us for over two decades. August began with us preaching in Ohio where we were able to spend time with our good friends Mark and Stephanie Sage. Then it was on to a new experience for Dee and me - The Midwest Christian Boys' Football Camp, also known as Man Camp. Dee had the opportunity to be one of the nurses and was kept quite busy with over 300 boys each playing four full games of full contact football over the course of one week. I was privileged to help out as the Green Team Varsity Assistant Defensive Coordinator. The football was fine but the decisions made during the week was the true victory. With ten salvation decisions, 37 called to full time Christian service, another 19 called to preach, two called to missions, and two called to serve in evangelism, it truly was an amazing week. It was also such a blessing for us to see dozens of pastors, missionaries, and evangelists who we have not been able to see face to face in over 25 years. As I was talking with my middle linebacker, I realized he was the grandson of missionary Doyle Johnson. Brother Johnson spent an afternoon with me back when I was a young single missionary, teaching me some things about raising boys on the mission field. Brother Doyle Johnson's son Matt was one of the best young men I worked with during my time in Oklahoma.

On August 15, Dee had a second cardiologist appointment where it was determined the she will need more tests. The doctor is providing her with enough medication for our return trip to Russia on August the 25th. Once back home in Krasnoyarsk, we will begin the process of selling our home and belongings as we transition back to the States to prepare for our next place of ministry. This decision was not made in haste and is the culmination of seeking counsel from dozens of seasoned men whom we respect and trust. All of the counsel we received has been in agreement with this decision. Our home pastor wants to make it clear that we are not in any way ending our ministry. We are looking forward to being busier in ministry as we will not be hindered by the restrictions we have been laboring under in Russia. We will maintain contact with our people in Krasnoyarsk and work to get them established in the one other Independent Baptist work in our area. We look forward to learning what the Lord has next for us.

Until we return in November our communications may be unpredictable. Our email: danddsterling@juno.com should still function. We can also be reached on Skype and Viber.

Please pray for our travels that God will prepare the way and go before us.

Your Servants for Jesus' Sake,

The Sterlings

1 Peter 2:21