July/August 2021

Dear Pastor, Church, and Praying Friends,

We trust everyone is safe and well around your place though many are still dealing with Covid, and its new variant called Delta. Our consolation as Christians is found in the Psalms 31:15, "My times are in thy hand...". We give God praise and glory everyday for your prayers and financial support. We are humbled by your faithfulness and care that you all provide for us. Thank you!

Our hearts are grieved for the tragedies of last week in Afghanistan. Our US Military and their families suffered many casualties and heartaches. Our prayer is that our Lord may comfort their hearts for their tremendous loss. "Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God." (2 Cor. 1:3-4)

This summer has come and gone so fast but not without a heat wave. We had temperatures rising as high as 112 .2 degrees on one day in Utrera and we had about two weeks of 100+ degrees. We thank the Lord for good air conditioning. July and August are vacation/holiday months in Europe, and people head for the beeches in southern Spain for two to four weeks. Business should get back to normal (as Covid will allow) by mid-September.

I have had oral surgery with an extraction, two implants, and two crowns which will not be completed until late October. An update on my knee as I saw the Orthopedic surgeon last week. She says that I need my knee cleaned out surgically and a knee replacement maybe in a year. She prescribed another month of inflammation medication before decision is made.

Ministry is going very slowly as we continue to make our presence known in the area. Last week we met with an USAF retiree and he and his wife agreed to visit with us. His wife had unexpected company, but he and his mother-in-law visited Sunday August 29<sup>th</sup>. They thanked us for letting them come but we assured them that we were here for them. They plan to come next week. PTL, we are excited, just when you need the Lord most He shows up. He is faithful!

Serving Christ and our US Military, Don and Patsy Drake John 4:34, 14:1-3