

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a Joyful New Year from the Van Wijngaarden Family in the United Kingdom



The year 2023 is almost over, and to be brutally honest, it was not what we had expected. That doesn't mean it wasn't good, because after all "for those who love God all things work together for good" (Romans 8:28). But good is not the same as always easy, or comfortable, or even clear, and that is exactly which made us realize so much that we live by the grace of God. And thus it is less about what to *expect of*, and more about what to *embrace in* life . In our case it was a long(er) season of waiting upon the Lord, living with lack of clarity, and wrestling through the bigger and smaller details of our life together in ministry. Last Christmas period we communicated about an evaluation of the first season in Church ministry, but we did not expect it to last for a whole year (which it did!). We thank God that it is coming towards the end, and more clarity is finally on the horizon (of which you can read more in our upcoming prayer letter(s); and for the ones that are interested, but do not receive those letters at the moment, please let us know by replying to this email, and we will sign you up).

Expect the unexpected...

We are also grateful for the many unexpected ways we were able to love and serve the ones that came across our life's path in this past year, from locals to internationals. So looking forward, we can only keep going as followers of Jesus Christ, but in whatever way He is leading us, for sure we learned in the past year to be more aware in expecting the unexpected. And that is not all, as Christmas may be a reminder to also expect what God promised us; and one of those things is that Jesus not only came to earth once, but He will come again.

We wish you a Merry Christmas, and a joyful 2024!

Greeting you all with the warmest regards,

Andreas, Katharine, Luca & Sem van Wijngaarden



Ways to be involved:

You can become a partner in the ministry! If that is of interest, send us an email: Fam.Van.Wijngaarden@icloud.com

PRAYER SUPPORT

We would love you to pray with us and will inform you with several prayer letters throughout the year.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

In the **USA**, we are part of Presbyterian Mission International (PMLweb.org/avw.php). You can choose from the following options to donate tax-deductible:

- join the Monthly Support Team by filling out the EFT form (PMLweb.org/EFTformPMI2020) and sending it in;
- mail a check and include to write "Van Wijngaarden" on the memo line and send it to PMI, 12330 Conway Rd, St. Louis, MO 63141;
- or see the following link (PMLweb.org/donations.php) for alternative ways of financial giving.

In **Nederland** zijn we aangesloten bij de ANBI-Stichting Samen op de Bres en kan er belastingaftrekbaar worden gedoneerd. Dit kan worden gedaan door geld over te maken naar IBAN NL35INGB0001152914 t.n.v. St. Samen op de Bres en o.v.v. "Wijngaarden planten." Het is ook mogelijk om de donatie automatisch te laten incasseren. Stuur ons een bericht en wij zullen het benodigde formulier dan toesturen.