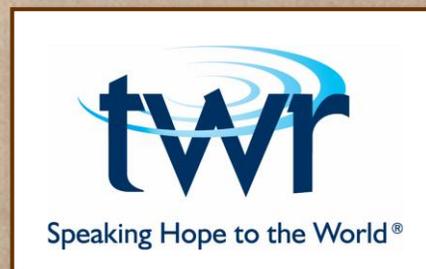


# The Rags Bag!

*An odd gathering of events and articles that may at times have something to do with the Ragsdale Clan and their adventures in Europe. This might include their latest musings, ministry updates, news, maybe even a song or picture that is in some way or another related to our ministry, extended family and friends. Our hope is that whatever comes out of "The Rags Bag" will not frighten, but instead, enlighten and encourage you to pray for us and TWR.*



Dear Family, Friends & Prayer Warriors:

April 2020

*So this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who relies on it will never be stricken with panic." Isaiah 28:16 (NIV)*

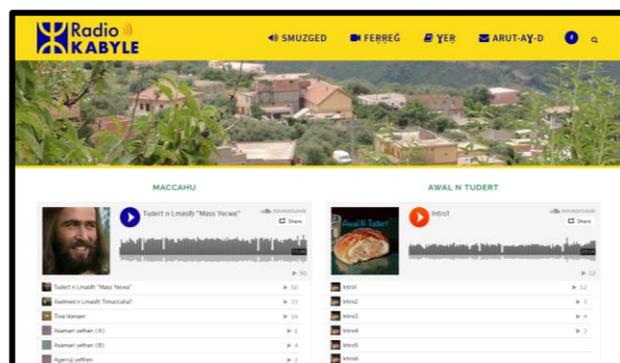
## Our sure foundation...

I am taking this verse completely out of its historical context, but I mention it here because it is the true and faithful word of God and is relevant for today. Our Savior is a strong and sure foundation, our rock, our fortress, our anchor in these times of uncertainty. I am so thankful for the peace and joy that the Lord provides as we seek and lean into Him for understanding and comfort. This Covid-19 virus pandemic has shaken the world's leaders, professionals and societies the world over. As leaders and the global medical community strive to bring about a thorough response amid the fear and madness, I am reassured, and my mind is at rest for none of this comes as a surprise to our God. Nevertheless, though my future is secure my response continues to be to call upon the God of all mercy and grace, to deliver and save. Please know that as you read this letter, we are thinking of you and praying for you that the knowledge of God's love, mercy and grace will overwhelm you and bring you joy and peace even while our world is in panic mode.

## New ministry...

We praise the Lord that all the funding for a new program to be produced for Algeria has been raised. The program is called "The Way of Righteousness" and this month the Kabyle ministry team will begin translation and production for this program in the Kabyle language. We hope that it will be ready for broadcast by mid-summer.

We are also grateful that a new website for our Kabyle ministry has been completed. This provides a new ministry platform where Kabyle people can access Christian content. Pray for the team as they continue to improve this platform and utilize it for the ministry.



Screenshot of the new Radio Kabyle website for Algeria.

## On the home front...

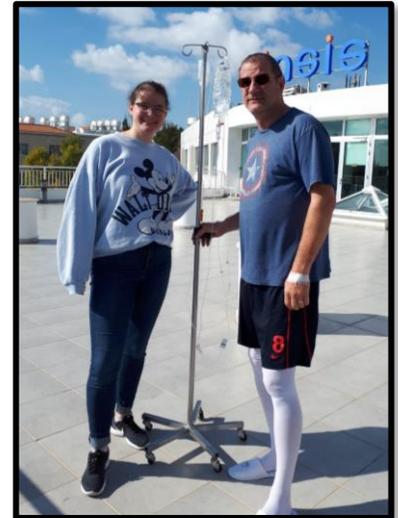
In early February, Carol had the privilege to travel back to the US to visit Jean Marc in Georgia. This was made possible because we had an unused roundtrip airfare, originating from Cyprus, that was meant for Carol to travel back in August to help get Jean Marc into college. We had to change the dates for that ticket, so she ended up using it in February. It was a blessing for her to spend time with Jean Marc and to see the progress he is making since his knee surgery. While



there she also got to see her mom and her brother's family who traveled up from Florida. Over the weekend of February 14-16, Carol was able to rent a car and drive Jean Marc and three other guys down to the coast to attend a weekend retreat for Third Culture Kids, on St Simons Island. While there she got to spend time with her sister who traveled down from North Carolina to be with her.

The weekend Carol arrived back in Cyprus we were fully engaged in helping Nicole carry out her backstage manager responsibilities for the Disney production of "High School Musical Jr" put on by the Paphos Youth Theatre. Aside from all the stress involved, she thoroughly loved leading the backstage crew and learning from seasoned professionals who have been putting on productions for many years. She has her sights set on being involved in further productions as time allows. I spent four of my Saturdays painting the set along with help from others. It was refreshing to be involved in that way.

Jean Marc is doing well in college. With all the restrictions and efforts being put in place to protect people and stop the Covid-19 virus his college choir tour was cancelled, and he has been staying in an almost empty dorm at the college during spring break. As he is a very social person, pray he will stay strong and encouraged even while the social distancing measures are being put into practice. Also, pray that he will be able to finish out the semester well even as the college goes to online classes.



Post-surgery, taking a walk on the roof of the hospital.

Four days after Carol returned from the US, I traveled to Malta to attend a North Africa focused ministry conference. Three days into the conference I developed significant pain in my gut and so stayed in bed for the last 1.5 days. On my flight back to Cyprus I was experiencing abdominal pain, nausea and high fever. Carol picked me up at the airport for the 1.5-hour drive home. Once there I went to bed and through the night tried to keep liquids down but my condition did not improve. The next morning (March 1<sup>st</sup>) she took me to hospital where they diagnosed that I was suffering from acute appendicitis. That evening they performed an appendectomy, and I spent the next two nights in hospital. I am so thankful for good medical response and am well out of the woods now. I am grateful to be home and back into my normal ministry related activities.

We thank you for your continued prayers and support. It's our hope that, amid all that is happening in the world and in your community, you will experience the peace and joy of knowing Christ as you hold firm to His promises.

Yours in Christ,

John, Carol, Jean Marc & Nicole Ragsdale  
**Serving the Lord with TWR in Europe & CAMENA**

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