

transcript of video from Tom Wheeler, recorded January 23, 2025

Well, hello to all of you across the way! It's time to bring you up to date with us, here in Wales. The ladies that I asked prayer for are still in need of it. Brenda went in for her op back in the autumn, but when they got down to it, the anaesthetist balked, saying she wasn't happy to participate in the surgery. That threw everything into an uproar and meant starting from scratch. Brenda is now re-scheduled for the first week of February, and we are all praying for no last-minute bailouts from anyone in the surgical team.

Shirley is making progress in healing from her surgery, but post-op cancer treatments continue. Until her post-operative condition changes, it will be unwise to immerse her in water. The same will be true of Brenda. This is the downside of being a Baptist, but I wouldn't have it any other way. The plan was to let them have the joy of sharing their baptism day. We shall see.

Wendy has since had a follow up from her cancer treatment, and some ugliness was found where her lymph nodes were removed; so, a few more anti-cancer treatments for a few months. But, on a positive note, she takes encouragement in the platform it gives her to talk to people about the Lord.

The other couple I mentioned briefly last time (Mel and Jan Cole) are the ones in our fellowship that we are even more concerned about. Mel, physically, was dependent upon Jan to help him with just about everything. Last week, Jan fell and broke her arm, and her dementia is now off the scale. Prayer meeting last night majored on them, as our people love them so - they are church *family*, not just church members.

Despite December's unhelpful weather and my back injury, we were able to get hundreds of Christmas Carol Service leaflets handed out across the community. First time visitor numbers increased from last year, and, unlike last year, we had an immediate return visit from an elderly chap named Frank, who has yet to miss a Sunday service since. He wanted to know where he could get a copy of the *Bible* for himself, so I went over and handed him a large print edition. He seemed genuinely surprised that he could have it for free. Pray that all that he is hearing about the "good tidings of great joy," would resonate with him, and God peradventure will grant him repentance to the acknowledging of the truth.

And finally, we're not waiting nine years this time to have a furlough, only six. Lord willing, we will be making our way across the water in the spring. This time we want to get around to everybody, even those churches we haven't visited since last millennium. We'll do our best to not look surprised at how much more distinguished you look, if you don't look surprised at how much older we look.

How good it will be to catch up with everyone!

Thank you for partnering with us to proclaim the glories of Jesus Christ - He who is mighty to save - to all who will hear. God bless you until we all meet again, either here or there. Amen.