



# BAPTIST INTERNATIONAL EVANGELISTIC MINISTRIES

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## May-June 2020

*"For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ." Philippians 3:20*

### Dear Pastors and Friends,

Greetings in Christ! We are grateful for all who join with us in proclaiming the Gospel to a world full of people who are without hope and purpose in life. It is God's Word that gives hope and purpose in life to all who respond and open their hearts to God and accept the gift of salvation through Jesus the Savior.

In our last prayer letter we shared the sad news with you that our grandson Noah had been put on home hospice. Last Sunday on June 21 this precious child passed from this life into the loving everlasting arms of the Lord. Following is the posting written by our daughter Susan.

*It is with a broken heart we share that our Brave Noah's fight is over, and he is now in heaven. He fell into a coma in the early hours of Sunday morning and passed away late Sunday afternoon. We have cherished these past eight weeks of being by his side and feel the profound impact of him gone. The missing weight in my arms is soul-crushing as we held him in our lap every day these past weeks. We find comfort in the fact that he got to do all the things he loved before he passed. His last food was his favorite Baked Cheetos. He drank his Diet Coke, and his final outing was shopping for Lego's. We know he is in heaven and no longer in any pain. He will have no more medical appointments, procedures, or medication times. He is now a perfect angel. His light shined so brightly on this earth, and he has touched so many lives and forever changes ours. His laugh was contagious and smiled through everything. We were so lucky that he was ours. Please pray over our grieving family. Our children, Madison and Shane, as well as Noah's many young cousins, need prayers as their innocent minds will try to process that sometimes children die. Pray for us to remember God is good and that He makes no mistakes. Pray for us as we try to make the dreaded "new normal" with such a tremendous loss. My Dad shared a divinely timed devotional with us this morning called "Eternal Eyes" that shared a similar story of a sweet child's death. The moral is to not focus on the things of this world- the pain of this world- and be filled with the hope of the eternal time with God and our child in the future. "We fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal" (2 Corinthians 4:18).*

It was truly amazing to see how Noah's story touched so many hearts. We would like to express our profound gratefulness to the many who prayed for Noah over these past eight years. God answered your prayers in many ways. Even in the end Noah never lost the sight in the eye that was threatened by the same circumstances that blinded the other eye. Here is a link to Noah's eulogy which many have commented on: <https://www.baptistinternational.org/news/celebrating-noah-harvey>

There are blessings in ministry we are glad to report. Most churches overseas have resumed services and the church in Ternopil held a baptismal service. This is posted on the BIEM Facebook page. Church building programs are making great progress in Siberia, Russia as well as in Smolin and Borshiv Ukraine. Even though they are a long way from completion the church in Smolin has managed to find a way to hold their services on the new property. In our *BIEM's of Light* we mentioned that the Yuditsev family in Shahovskaya, Russia contracted the coronavirus. They have all recovered coronavirus without being hospitalized. Praise God that most of our camps overseas are going to operate this summer. Please pray for the \$17,000 is still needed to fund these efforts. Also pray that God will bless the efforts of our missionaries that are reaching out to victims of the severe flooding in Western Ukraine. So far they have delivered aid but need more funds to provide food and other necessities. This month's video update <https://vimeo.com/433668933> highlights this need. May God bless each of you with a wonderful summer in your service for Him.

### *The Slobodians*

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*"...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel." Mark 16:15*