

## Merv and Kim, December 2020



**“ You shall call His name Emmanuel, which means God with us.”**

What a joy to know the Christ of Christmas, Emmanuel, God being with us. In all the confusion and chaos of Covid; God is with us. In all the isolation and loneliness of lockdown; God is with us. In all the darkness and guilt of sin: God is with us.

A lot has happened since we last wrote to you. We've been in and out of a local lockdown and another strict national lockdown in Wales. We have continued zoom meetings for Indian churches as well as deputation meetings with churches in Wales. Restrictions have now relaxed a bit and we have been meeting again on Sundays and Tuesday evenings. God has graciously enabled us to restart the youth meeting two weeks ago and we have had increasing numbers each time, PTL!



### Cwmdare Mission

The biggest piece of news that we want to bring you is that two weeks ago, Cwmdare Mission members voted unanimously to call me as their pastor. I have accepted their call and started straight away. It is a small congregation but with a Big Heart for Missions: to reach out locally and to support overseas Gospel work. We and they see us as still being missionaries: its just that the work will now be split between home missions and overseas missions. They have generously agreed to release me and Kim to India and Nepal for 3 to 4 months each year, God willing.

Please pray for the LORD to move by His Holy Spirit upon the people of Cwmdare and Aberdare. It is such a needy area in every way. We long that the building would once again be filled with saved souls worshipping our Wonderful Saviour.

### Continuing Overseas Work

We intend to go to India/Nepal twice a year; in the spring and autumn. This will mean that we are able to fulfill all our PTI and SBT pastors training commitments and be able to visit Kachhwa. I have resigned from being a pastor at Kachhwa Bible Church, but continue to keep in touch with Pastor Avinash and Pastor Sujay, giving support, advice and encouragement whenever I can. I am continuing, almost on a weekly basis, to preach and teach in India and Nepal via Zoom as well as counselling pastors and church planters on a one to one basis. While zoom is a fantastic stopgap it will never replace the depth and encouragement of face to face fellowship. So we long to get back to India as soon as restrictions are ended. Probably, after Easter 2021. Daily I am getting messages from our brothers in India: “When are you returning Pastor ji?”

### Support

We want to thank you all: churches and individuals, so much for your support; both in prayer and financially. We very much value your partnership in the Gospel with us. We could not serve as we do without you.

We would very much covet your continued support. Though very generous, Cwmdare is a small church. It is only with their financial help, together with yours, that we will cover the increased costs of living in Wales as well as increased travel and accommodation costs to and from India etc

However, if you feel unable to continue supporting us because of such a change in our circumstances, please feel under no obligation. We are so thankful for all that you have done for us already. We do praise God for you.

### **Covid Pastors Support**

We have been amazed at the generosity of God's people here in providing support for our dear brother pastors and church planters in India and Nepal. We have been able to channel over £12,500 so far, to those in the greatest need. I have had many messages of heartfelt thanks saying that the gifts arrived in God's perfect timing, just when they could see nothing on the horizon.

All Glory to God!

We would love to hear from you, about how the LORD has helped you/ kept you through lockdowns etc. About your family news, church news, things we can be praying about for you.

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Love in Christ,  
Merv and Kim

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