

## September Newsletter 2021



Greetings from Scotland which is just emerging from the chaos, which was instigated from the battle with the Covid D virus. At last some of Scotland's congregations have been allowed to meet in their buildings again for worship services – albeit still needing to wearing masks. Some congregations, including our congregation in Dundee, have indicated that they will phase out their ZOOM services by the end of this month. Maurice still has to stay in 'shielding' mode of protection – for now -- by still refraining from physically mixing with other people because of his underlying health condition. However, we will still be able to use *You Tube* and *Facebook* to join in worship with Texas congregations at Sunset, Green Lawn, Idalou and at Lawton, OK.

We are still keeping up with our 'garden gate to front door' visitations and taking friends for hospital appointments and procedures. One of them, Pauline, had to have operation on her ankle which was then put into a plaster cast. Unfortunately, she lives in an apartment on the third floor. We decided that she was better coming to stay with us for the first 2 weeks. We all enjoyed the chance to catch up and take some small trips in the car to enjoys the scenery, but it did throw up some roblems with the car. We hired a car to be able to return Pauline to her home and get some shopping in for her.

However, by our stringent following of restrictions, successfully passing Covid tests and inoculations, we were able to fly (nonstop) on a Sunday, when the airports were at their quietest, to Jersey in the UK Channel Islands for a short stay. We stayed in a private home and were thrilled to meet up with grandchildren, Pierre aged 14 years and Lauren 11 years, whom we had not seen for nearly three years. Polly enjoyed playing *Petanque Boules*, as a guest player, with Lauren's club, while Maurice went over some of Pierre's inventions with him.

*Some photos from our trip to Jersey showing items from 2<sup>nd</sup> world war*



While we were away, we left our car 'in dock' with a garage to have new brakes fitted and the problem with the leaking cooling system. All is now well.

We also managed to enrol some of our brothers and sisters in the current term at Sunset where they are enjoying the SAIM classes via Zoom. We joined them when we return from our short holiday.

Polly has currently taken over the lead in a ladies' prayer and study group that meets through zoom, one of the works started under the leadership of Cumbernauld congregation. Janet, Pauline's mother, started this but is currently in hospital receiving treatment for cancer. She asked Polly to do this as she did not want the ladies class to cease. The ladies class that Polly also does in Glenrothes is restarting shortly face to face. It will be a joy to study together again. Her 'one on one' studies over the phone are still continuing with a sister in South Shields.

We thank you all again for the help and prayers that you give us in Scotland. May God continue to bless you all.

Maurice and Polly Charlton