

## Newsletter Summer 2022

### Introduction

Welcome to the first newsletter from the Foreign Mission Committee regarding work at the Study Centre in 2022! It is very unusual that the first newsletter of the year comes out this late; normally you would have already received a spring newsletter from us on work in the first quarter of the year. But the circumstances in Rev. Kampen's family prevented us from publishing until now. So now the report below will cover the first half of this year. With deep thankfulness we can see that the Lord has continued to guide and bless the Study Centre as well as our missionary and his family, even and especially during a time of trial and refining! With that, let's turn to Rev. Kampen's report.

### A Special Gift!

Normally my reports attempt to highlight the blessings of the Lord in the work of the Study Centre. This time will be no different, yet will start out by pointing to the Lord's blessings in our family recently. The Lord decided that April 22 would be the day when he would bless us with the birth of our son Jared Jopie (named after one of his dad's favourite theologians! ☺), and also when he would visit us with a time of waiting and wondering. Though Jared was born with some significant health complications, the Lord graciously preserved him and us during a time of uncertainty. The Lord gave answers in time to questions surrounding Jared's health. And in the midst of disruptions in family life during Jared's two-month stay in the NICU at McMaster Hospital, the Lord gave an extra measure of strength, patience, and peace. He also blessed us richly with a loving, supportive, and prayerful church community. The Lord is truly good, graciously providing us with all things! We cannot thank him enough for his great love, nor can we adequately express to you, our brothers and sisters in Dunnville and Niagara South, our gratitude for who you are and what you have done for us. May the Lord richly reward you for your kindness! Now little Jared is doing very well at home, and brings a lot of joy to parents and siblings alike! He really is a special gift that we get to treasure!

### Full-Time for Jeff Morris!

Now to the work itself. As shared with the congregation in a bulletin notice in mid-May, br. Jeff Morris has now been given a full-time job at the RSC! We were delighted that he saw the way clear to accept our offer and begin full-time in June. It really is an exciting development, for both the Study Centre and our church. For the Study Centre, his job description includes work on exegetical issues and on contributing simple but extensive

explanations of various theological topics and doctrines. This is massively important for our helping of the pastors in the young church. And it is exciting for our church because it marks a tangible expansion in our involvement in the mission work. When I started out a partnership with Dunnville in the work some four years ago now, I had no inkling something like this would happen as soon as it did. But thankfully the Lord knew, and brought it about so graciously!

May the Lord continue to prosper Jeff's work, and use him for the furtherance of the work of the Study Centre!

## Vox Viva Bible Study

The past study season in our church included the Vox Viva Bible study. The study on Zephaniah has gone well so far. Proof, I think, of its value is that though we met six times, and only made it as far as Zep2:11. That tells you that the studies had some good depth to them, which is beneficial for both the attendees (I hope!) and also Vox Viva!

We are on break for the summer, but do hope to pick things up again in September. At this point I am not quite sure how many more evenings we will need to cover Zephaniah, but my impression from the regular attendees at the study is, "No rush!" I am plugging away at the preparations during these summer months, so I will have a better sense by end of summer as to how to divvy up the remaining studies on the book. What happens after Zephaniah? In a word, I am not sure! But hopefully by the time my next report comes out, I will have a better idea. Till then!

## Stats

My report would be incomplete without the usual statistics on some of the work done for Christian Library (CL) and Vox Viva. My time allotted to work on CL decreased earlier this year. That is mainly because of the increasing amount of time I spend instead on Vox Viva. In particular, I am basically no longer spending time on the editing of translated articles, for publication on CL. I have handed off the oversight of that task to one of our main editors, who lives in South Africa. So the stats on that score are very low, since the transition occurred very early in the year. Here then are the various stats:

- ❖ Number of article listings uploaded by other theologians that I edit and publish on the site: 115
- ❖ Number of translated articles that workers have edited and of which I have made a final review: 9
- ❖ Number of children's devotions that volunteers have edited: 16

Our work of publishing notes in Vox Viva went very well in the first half of 2022. We added 2,300 notes in total, which brings the current total to 10,300 available notes on the software. Thankful for this progress!

Well, that's it for now! Wishing you all a time of refreshment, and we'll be back in the fall with more!