



The Thatchers

Waterford, Ireland



- Ireland's population, 4.5 million
- 34% of population 25 years old or younger
- Dublin's population over 1.2 million
- Waterford's population over 46,000
- 85% still claim to be Roman Catholic

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Dear Friends,

September 2021

The summer in Ireland this year has been a blessing in so many ways. The weather has been warm, calm and dry from June right up to the present. Our garden has produced very well along with the items that we were able to grow inside the large poly tunnel that we were able to get this past winter through some special gifts that a few folks had given to us for that purpose. We are very thankful for this. The Lord has allowed us to lay up the harvest for the coming winter.

The summer was also productive in ministry as we began to emerge from lock down in early June although with many restrictions still in place. Thankfully, we were able to have the building open for physical services again. Many people have come back out for the in-person services as well as the weekly Bible classes for the kids and teens. Our summer holiday Bible club went very well. Due to restrictions, we were limited in the number of kids that we could have. Our focus was on Jesus Christ spanning time from eternity past into eternity future. There were four who raised their hands for salvation. It has been good to see the kids open their hearts and learn the truths of the Word of God. We had a teen girl and an adult lady trust Christ as their Saviour as well. This was a long-time coming answer to prayer! Much sowing and watering has gone into these two particular people over the past few years. Pray with us that they would at some point soon follow the Lord in believer's baptism.

You may well remember that we have asked prayer over the past 2-3 years for a particular family that has been a part of our church but had been overtaken with huge internal family problems. During this time this family was all but dissolved and destroyed. I had almost given up on there being any reconciliation in this home. But much to my surprise when the lockdown ended in early June, I got a phone call from this family wanting to see me about their situation and their desire to be back in church together as a family. We do praise the Lord for His grace and working in peoples lives. There seemed to be a genuine remorse for the wrongs that were done and sincerity of heart in wanting to seek forgiveness from all who had been deeply offended by their actions. Thank you for those who have prayed so much for this family.

Be praying with us for another family that has slid to edge and is rather cool to being faithful to the Lord concerning church. One of the sad outcomes of the long lockdowns here is that there seems to be a serious lethargy that has come for many concerning their spiritual lives. Pray for Lisa concerning some inflammation that has developed in her left shoulder. The doctor is trying some injections and other medication to help get it under control and eliminated. Our family has been able to maintain good health during the last year and a half. We are very thankful for this.

May the Lord find us faithful,
Don Thatcher