



**Jan–April 2019**

**Quickly after our first Sunday of the year, the government shutdown began and started affecting federal workers as they were not receiving their wages. Learning that our Staten Island Coast Guard base was also affected, we began pursuing what we could do about that situation, seeing that our Fort Wadsworth is the largest Coast Guard base in the United States. We mentioned in the previous letter that we had helped three families; however, we were blessed to help 13 families until the government opened back up. So far we have seen six families visit the church and two families have remained faithful and come every week. Elizabeth and I have also used this unplanned outreach event to continue to witness and shine for Jesus on base. We definitely have a good reputation on base now.**

**Elizabeth has started crafting with many wives and done other activities. I have started working out on base with the husband from the family who now comes faithfully and have met his crew and others who have heard about what our church as done on base for those families. Elizabeth also has added a few new piano students from the Coast Guard families, one of which is the master commander's son. He is a Christian that attends a non-denominational church on Staten island and has shown great potential in helping us further our ministry on base. We are in the process of working with him to possibly start a service on base, run a vacation Bible time on base for a week during the summer, and get us information on new families transferring to the base this spring so we can give them a welcome gift and invitation to church. Please pray for this potential opportunity that everything can go through the proper channels quickly and that we can reach many more families for the cause of Christ.**

**With the arrival of blessings has also come a few challenges. First of which is our oil heat in our home. Because we rent, we have don't have a choice on how we heat the place. For those who may not know, oil heat is very expensive, especially in NYC. This year heat alone cost over \$3,000 for just the winter months, and we are currently working on paying that off. Another financial strain that we are considering is looking for a new family van. We currently have a KIA car and a second older car that has become a money pit in the past year. With the birth of awesome baby**

Zion a year ago, we now have three children and it makes getting around, traveling, and ministry a little more difficult. My dad has a good relationship with a car dealer in Pennsylvania so we can get a good deal on a new or used van and we are in desperate need to upgrade from a car to a van. The approximate total for a van that we are looking at is \$15,000. Please keep these two financial needs in prayer that the Lord provides a way to pay these off.

Other than our great new start to the year, we are looking forward to some of our big church events that always seem to be a time for spiritual and physical growth. This month we have our church anniversary and its being kicked off with revival. Our guest preacher is Evangelist Paul Swanke. Then the next week we are having a fleet week Sunday. Fleet week is when all the ships come back to the harbor and there are a ton of activities and thousands of soldiers in town. We will be providing a meal and free family portraits to the families who attend that day. Our Coast Guard families that attend our church have stated that every soldier is required to attend an activity and our service counts as one of the activities, so we are looking forward to seeing what God will do through that day. Please keep these big events in prayer.

Thank you once again for your support and prayer! God is doing great and mighty things!

*David and Elizabeth Wilt*

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