



## ***THE CAREW CONNECTION***

August 2020

**Matthew 11:28**

**Come unto me all ye that are heavy laden and I will give you rest.**

I'm Stuck! Stuck in a world that seems topsy-turvy and upside down. Is it just us or is good being called evil, and evil being called good more and more often these days? Everywhere we look it seems like evil is about to beset us. In spite of all this, we know that God is faithful and He has set the world in motion and He continues to uphold it no matter what! Some days it seems as though the sadness and heartache of this world will not stop, and then I am reminded that this too shall pass and a new and glorious day is just over the horizon! Remember, that no matter what your troubles are, there are others in the world that may be suffering more. What a day that will be when my Jesus I shall see! We have a Holy One to look upon and lean on and we need to share that love with others during these difficult days! Please don't let yourself fall into Satan's trap of anger, hatred and defeat; but keep pressing on to that beautiful Love of our Blessed redeemer! Recently I was reminded of the words in Nehemiah 2 and what a great reminder it is to all of us to 1) work together and 2) never give up! We must complete the work before us of reaching others with the Love of Jesus!



Everyday we have been watching and waiting for Chad to open up to international travel. We finally received word that IT IS!! We praise the Lord for that, and for the prayers of so many, like you, that have been praying with us. So, we finally have tentative departure/arrival dates! On Sept 22 we will fly out of Grand Rapids, Mi. arriving in N'djamena, Chad on Sept 23. Before leaving Grand Rapids we have to take a covid test and then once we arrive in Chad we have to quarantine for 7 days. Upon arrival at the airport there, our passports will be taken and held during our quarantine. After the seven days we need to take another covid test and if negative, our passports will be returned.

This means we will be in N'djamena for a much longer period than we had anticipated. Costs there are a bit more for us, plus we will need one of our workers to come up to get supplies for us and run errands while we are under quarantine. We will not be allowed to even step outside during this time! Having someone come to help us out means we also have to secure and pay for their housing and food costs in the capital as well. Please pray with us for these added costs and difficulties during this time of unknown. The other challenge we're currently facing is the renewal of our Passports and new visas for travel to Chad. Our passports are not expired, but we have no pages left for new visas, so this is forcing us to have them renewed. However, in this time of covid, all passports offices had been shut down. If we mail them in we have been told it could take until Nov to get them back! Therefore, with prayer we are trusting that we will be able to walk them into an office 2-3 weeks before we are to leave and have them renewed. Then we will need to apply for new Chadian visas since our 1 year visas have expired while we were waiting in the States. We will acquire tourist visas to travel to Chad and apply for new 1 year visas after our quarantine. Pray that the timing for all of this works out!

Since churches began having services again we have been kept busy visiting our amazing churches and our precious supporters. We thank the Lord for the many who have loved us and encouraged us along the way! In one church, the people all gathered around and prayed over us! What a precious time that was! In many of these



churches we have had people mention that they would like to come to visit us in Chad to encourage us in our work on the field. While we truly desire that, we are often reminded of our ongoing housing dilemma as well! In July we contacted the current homeowners once again to ask for an extension on our home rental. Due to covid, most commerce and activities in Chad had been shut down, so everyone is suffering for finances. This helped us to secure our home for another 6 months. However, it left us needing to pull money out of other sub-accounts in order to cover this need depleting some of those project/need savings. Some of you have, thankfully, reached out to us to help us recoup some of those funds! A heartfelt THANK YOU! We are still about \$1500.00 short but know that our God is able! Please continue to pray with us regarding our housing situation when we return! Toward the end of July we grieved as Carol's

godmother, Thelma Gale of Hart, MI., went home to the Lord as well as a dear Pastor friend of ours in Chad, Pastor Jeudi. We have also heard of others who passed away, so our hearts have been hurting but we know that many of those who died knew Jesus!

In July, Les's Mom had a an episode and had to be hospitalized for a few days. She is home now but we would appreciate prayers for her in the months to come. Carol's Mom turned 92 on Aug 4<sup>th</sup> and we are thankful and blessed for the many years God has given us with our Moms and their love for us!

We have also been able to enjoy a little bit of R & R this past month. Carol has always wanted to go see Mackinac Island, so we took one day and went across! We have also been able to get out and do a little fishing on some of the lakes up here in Michigan!

This Sunday Les is speaking at New Richmond Baptist church in Holland MI. for the evening service, and then next week we will be presenting our ministry at Eden Bible in Beulah, MI. in the morning service. Please pray for us as we begin wrapping things up here in the States. Carol has also been asked to speak to a ladies' group one more time and is looking forward to that! Please contact us soon if you would like to get together with us before we head back to Sarh, Chad. Please pray, too, for the many people that we are wanting to share Christ with in Africa, and that the Lord would even now start preparing their hearts for the Gospel.

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