



Nov/ Dec 1997

**LET US WITH HEAVEN AND NATURE SING
OUR PRAISES TO THE NEWBORN KING!**

HARVEST TIME !

During this time of **Thanksgiving** for all of the bounty that the Lord has generously given, we gladly share with you the fruit of your prayers!

- **Our team has grown** by three since our last letter! Peter, Jamie and Gabby Carlson arrived on November 4th and we are so glad to have them here! By the end of January, with more arrivals, our team will grow to 25 people!

- In a previous letter we asked for **good teachers for Kendra and Cody** for this school year. To our surprise, Kendra and Cody both have the same wonderful teachers that they had last year! They enjoy school and are doing well. A Greek tutor meets with them once a week to help them in the long journey toward fluency!

- Our **new rented facility opened** as planned on October 18th! The Lord miraculously provided the necessary money to complete the renovations and met every other need in order to begin ministry there! Weekly **soup kitchen, English/Greek classes, and "Tea Bar"** three nights a week have now begun. As we feed these needy people, develop friendships, show various evangelistic videos and have Bible discussions, we are seeing physically and spiritually hungry people fed in the name of Jesus!

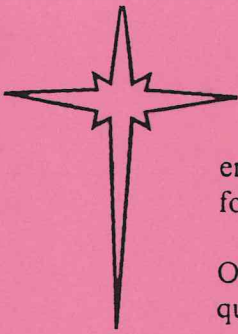
JOY TO THE WORLD !

As Christmas time approaches, we seek the Lord in knowing how best to reach out to the many lonely and poor that surround us. This year we will be distributing **decorated shoeboxes filled with practical and fun items for men, women and children**. Thanks to the many of you who have contributed to this effort! We will be handing them out at the soup kitchen, where we plan to have a special meal and a Christmas program. It is such a simple way to demonstrate the love of Jesus, and so meaningful to many who will have no other holiday celebration. Please pray that the Lord's presence will draw many to Himself!

We plan to go up to the **Kurdish refugee camp** and give a Christmas program and some gifts. There are currently about **1,400** there, living in drafty and wet tents, uncertain about their future. Pray with us that these who feel so "forgotten" will understand that they are truly precious to the Savior!

On December 13th, there will be a **concert** for the benefit of **Helping Hands!** Many Greek Christian artists will be donating their talents to help further ministry to the refugees and ethnic minorities of Athens. Our desire is not only to raise money, but also to raise awareness among Greek Christians of the many needs around them. We are





encouraged as we see the awareness growing, and the genuine concern that many have for their neighbors.

On Sunday night, at the Greek evangelical church we attend, many asked thoughtful questions of our **Kurdish brother, Halmat**, after he shared his personal testimony!

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL!

Because you have been faithful in praying, we ask you to come once again and pray with us for a very special and specific need! Through the Lord's provision and the generosity of a Christian foundation in America, we recently received \$75,000 for our ministry here in Athens! Though not enough to purchase a large multi-purpose facility, we feel the Lord's leading in buying a smaller facility that we have been looking at for many months. Our desire is to provide **a place to sleep for some of the many homeless refugees** in Athens. Some of our dear Christian brothers who are themselves refugees, would help us in the running of the facility. As we offer a warm, dry place for "the least of these", we know that we are "doing it as unto the Lord", and we pray that in the process their hearts will be filled with His love and hope! Please pray that the details would all come together- for HIS glory!

Please pray for our dear brother, **Halmat**, as He seeks to lead fellow Kurds out of the dark of Islam and into the light of Jesus! God is using him mightily, but he is paying the price of persecution from fellow countrymen. So MANY are open and hungry, yet so many are afraid to question life-long tradition! Pray for Halmat's protection and encouragement.

Why do we ask for your prayers? Because we know you care about souls, because we know that God uses your prayers to bring glory to Himself here in Athens! **We so love you and appreciate your participation in the ministry here.** "Ask of me, and I will give the nations as an inheritance for you!" What a wonderful promise!

THE LORD HAS COME! LET EVERY HEART PREPARE HIM ROOM!

Rejoicing with you,
Scott, Vicki, Kendra, Cody and Kyle

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