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KEEPING IN TOUCH - November, 2019 *We're still around!*

Dear Friends,

"The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away." Psalm 90:10

Well, we've reached a little more than that. But with each passing year we notice more of the second part of that verse. The *"labour"* part, not the *"sorrow"* part. Some time ago a friend in church quoted to me, *"growing old is not for sissies."* I agree and I imagine so do many of you.



Having said that, with this letter our prayer letter writing days come to a close. We are ever so grateful to each and every church and individual that has prayed for us over these many years and many have given as the Lord has moved on your hearts. As long as we are able to do so we continue helping in the ministry of Foundation Baptist Church in Sammamish, WA. We now have our services in the heart of our city, in space we rent from the Central Washington University, formerly home of megachurch Mar's Hill. Many people drive by the main street in front of the church where we have signs announcing the church. We trust this will give



us much more visibility in this city of almost 65,00 souls, a very, very liberal state, who need the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our pastor, Matt Farinella, left for Spain today to do the preaching at Andy's European Missionary Youth Retreat at Aierdi.

We are very thankful that the church that we started in Spain, Bible Baptist Church of Irun, is doing well, self-supporting, self-governing and self-propagating. Pastor Israel Piqueras and his wife, Laura, are doing a good work in that church in the Basque Country, bordering France. We are very thankful for our three boys who grew up there in Spain. Andy and his wife Mimi, have a good work, Living Hope Baptist Church in Beasain, Spain, about an hour from our home church on the coast. They also have an old farmhouse retreat center on 35 acres of mountainside. Grandson Danny and his wife, Jordan, help in that ministry. Grandson David and his wife, Raquel, are assuming the leadership of another church that we started with the Roy Keiser family in the 80's. Our stateside boys, Stephen with his wife Kay, and son Mark are busy in their respective churches here near Seattle, Washington. God is so good.

In our last letter we mentioned some health issues. Helga is doing fine. Yours truly not as good. For those of you who will remember this need, on January 21, I will be having a cervical 4-thoracic 4 laminectomy on my spine, removal of some lamina from the spine to give access for removal of cyst & tumor, and then subsequent spinal fusion with rods and screws to support my spine where they will remove the lamina. Mouthful? There is always google. This was actually discovered by a Spanish doctor, through an MRI, around 2010 in San Sebastian, Spain. It has grown to where it is practically blocking my spine column. Would appreciate your prayers.

Would not change those over 40 years in Spain for anything. I fully agree with William Borden, who wanted to go to China as a missionary but died in Egypt before he got there. He said, *"No Reserves. No Retreats. No Regrets."* Amen.

Sincerely in Christ,

Al & Helga Bonikowsky