

Alan and Megan Barker

Happy Families

July 2022



www.bmsworldmission.org/ambarker

Hello everyone

We hope you are all surviving the unexpected heat! To be honest, we've been finding it quite pleasant 😊, but we're more used to hot and humid.

We arrived safely on 1st July and have had some wonderful family times together. Sadly (for us) Gemma and Silas and their beautiful children are now back in Seoul, and Rhys, Tete and their amazing boys head back to Ho Chi Minh on 2nd August, but we have lovely memories to treasure and still further times ahead with Carl and Lisa and the ever entertaining Jacob, Isobel and Noah.

We enjoyed the BMS conference, 'Expect 22', 4th to 8th July, but unfortunately we did manage to pick up the lovely Covid virus and so had to cancel/switch to online for our first planned church visits. However, apart from lingering coughs, we are doing OK now.

The rest of our time in the UK looks like this:

6th August Carleton Rode Baptist, Norfolk. Evening social event.

7th August Attleborough Baptist Church, Norfolk. Morning service. Afternoon event, joint with other churches

8th August Burwell Baptist evening prayer meeting

11th August Mountsorrel, Leics. Evening housegroup meeting.

14th August Barrow-upon-Soar, Leics. Morning service and lunch.

(19th Meetings at Baptist House, Didcot)

21st August Hitchin churches, Herts. Morning and afternoon.

23rd August Lancaster Baptist Church, Lancaster. Afternoon meeting

31st August Aintree Baptist Church, Liverpool. Evening event

If you are in the area at any of these times, you'd be most welcome to come along to one of the services and say hello!



First the bad news...

A friend who heads up a Christian organisation that offers help to people in times of trouble wrote on 15th July:

Yesterday we heard about the destructive landslide in a place called Arughat. It happened on 13th July at 6 pm. People were able to save themselves. 40 families lost what they have and have houses damaged. 4 of them were totally under rubble. The location from Pokhara is around 200 km rough road and it is still raining.



An example of the devastation caused.

Then on Tuesday 19th July he wrote:

Thank you for your prayers, words of encouragement and all other support. We headed to Arughat on Friday and stayed in the municipality town for the night. The next morning, we started the journey to the landslide place. It was very different to our imagination. We thought we would easily reach in 3 hours' journey but the track was just open and damaged by the rain. We reached the place of the landslide with great difficulty. However, it was a joy to meet with the people affected by the landslide. They valued our presence along with the supplies we had for them. We were the first group to reach there with supplies and meet them, listen to them and see their conditions. They wanted to show us the conditions of their houses, many were hit by the landslide with mud around and in the houses that remained. They are displaced and living with their neighbours and relatives. Monsoon continues.

Whilst we are greatly saddened by the news we are hearing of floods and landslides, it is good to know that churches are working together to make this help possible. We pray more will get involved and also that government aid will be made available to those that need it.

Now the good news...

As we write, hot off the press, we have just heard the news that the KISC visa process has been moving forward. Our friend writes...

I am pleased to inform you that our existing agreement with the Ministry of Education is now finally renewed for the next 5 years. It was a huge relief, since our summer break has been spent chasing up the agreement and visas. Praise the Lord for His faithfulness over KISC... the process is almost completed at the Labour Department. This means we will start working with Immigration Department next week to start stamping your visas.

So, our return should be quite straight forward with a quick transition from tourist visas on arrival to the one-year work permit we need. That will make things a lot smoother for us.

Meanwhile we are thanking God for fun times with our family and the provision of a base in Felixstowe and we ask you to join with us in praying that we will fully recover from the effects of Covid and be able to enjoy the coming weeks of travelling around and meeting up with many of you.



Have you seen the new BMS Harvest video? It's called Good Land, and excitingly, this year it focusses on transforming life in a remote village community in Nepal! You'll know from reading our prayer letters just how hard life in Nepal can be for the poorest people. The families of Ghusel village experience a lot of scarcity, but they also have powerful dreams about making life better for their whole community.

Why not watch the video, hear the dreams from Ghusel, and discover how you or your church could help in making them a reality?

Look out for an email from the BMS team soon with more about Good Land! You can also head to www.bmsworldmission.org/goodland to find out more today.

With our love and prayers and ongoing gratitude for your support,

Alan and Megan

If you would like to support Alan and Megan Barker by prayer and committed regular giving, visit bmsworldmission.org/partners or call 01235 517617 for a 24:7 Partners leaflet.

