The Schnell Family News

2Cor 4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.



July & August 2026
Dear Churches, Family, and Friends,

WARNING: Two page prayer letter!

Hello once again. It is time for us to update you all on our deputation travels. We are not very good social media people. Pray we can get in the habit of posting updates more frequently and in a timely manner. We want to take pictures of everywhere we go and capture the memories, but the opportunity passes by the time we think of it. Please follow our ministry Facebook page "***The Schnells in Slovenia***". And make note of our website. We also have a personal FB profile and will post periodic updates on both our ministry page and personal profile. We upload all current prayer letters to our website.

Website: *https://schnellslovenia.org/*

I must say that we have been blessed and watched over during the many miles we have traveled. The van has run well. We have been cared for far and above what we deserve. We had wonderful accommodations. We have not lacked anything. We met some fantastic people and churches all around this great country. We tell people how beautiful Slovenia is, but the USA has a beauty all its own with extreme variety of natural beauty. We will miss this land, but we long for our new country where God is sending us.

Travels/Meetings/Support: Please note that any support sent to us through ***Central Missionary Clearinghouse*** needs to be made out to CMC. Put our full name in the memo. CMC also has online giving setup through a link on the CMC website. You can also give directly through our home church, ***Bible Baptist Church*** in Bowie Texas, either by mail or online.

During these past two months we have been in 19 churches. Some were supporting churches and some were new. And several told us that they will partner with us in Slovenia. Our support level is currently at 80%. We now have enough to meet the visa requirements for Slovenia. We hope to reach our goal so that we have enough to minister, translate, print, and do evangelism projects. Our departure date for Slovenia is the end of March. And we have a lot to do before then. We covet your prayers.

The beginning of July found us headed to the panhandle of Texas and three churches in Borger. One church took us on even though they had to cancel and reschedule our meeting. We had an interesting zoom meeting with a missionary and group of believers in Macedonia, then we were off to Eagle, Colorado. The pastor there is overseeing two churches. One of the churches made us think of what churches in small mountain villages might be like in Slovenia. From there we took a "scenic" route through the mountains to Wyoming and then east to Nebraska. Sometimes "scenic" routes are nice. We are just not sure that some the roads we took were meant for mini-vans. We drove through the night and got a few hours of sleep at a rest area. My legs were starting to give me problems. We stopped in Crete, Nebraska, and took my sister to breakfast and had a nice visit. After that we made a beeline for Port Trevorton, Pennsylvania, and a visit with Margie's family. Then to Truthville, New York, to report to a long-time supporting church. They dedicated their VBS offering towards our plane tickets and we were shocked by the amount. Pray for Truthville Baptist Church, they are needing a pastor and are a church older than the United States! From there we stopped and visited another sister of mine in Herkimer, NY. Then to Kettering Ohio, in Dayton where we stayed with our son Steve Jr, Cassie and grandson Damon.

It was at our son's house that my left leg totally gave out. We were taking our grandson to the park and my leg buckled and I fell into the grass. Damon looked down at me and said, "We need to take paps back to the house." Anyway, the VA doctor in Dayton gave me some muscle relaxers and pain pills to relieve a pinched nerve. The doctor said I need to lay flat on my back for a week and do some stretches. During that lazy week I did not stay hydrated and ended up with a severe case of vertigo. Now I drink plenty of water and we stop every 1.5 to 2 hours and walk and stretch. As of the writing of this letter, my leg is much improved. Margie says I almost walk normally up to the pulpit until I get to the steps.

We based out of Steve & Cassie's for a time and with all the coming and going we did, our grandson was beginning to think we just lived there. We went to Alpena, Michigan, to present to a new supporting church. They are planting a church in the downtown area. Faith Baptist Church of Alpena is also seeking a pastor. I can recommend this church since the main family starting this church plant has the same last name as mine, although unrelated. Then back to Dayton and a meeting at Moraine Heights Baptist Church. Then to Elizabethtown, Kentucky, for a wonderful mission conference. A pastor from Carthage Tennessee whom I had not seen in nearly 20 years preached. It was a blessing! And then back to Dayton.

After that we flew to Seattle Washington for some meetings in Oregon and Washington. We intended to

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drive, but because of my leg we decided against it. We love the time together driving, seeing places and meeting people. We had some great meetings on the West coast. We caught up with old friends in Portland, made new friends in Puyallup, and at a church in Chehalis, WA, I met up with my old roommate from when I was in the Navy. We were both young believers. It was great to see him and his family honoring God. We made some new connections with a pastor in Sequim, WA. We needed a place to stay, and his church had a very nice missions' apartment. We did not know this pastor or church before then. Hopefully we can get back out to their church planting conference in December. Sequim is on the Olympic peninsula, and we did a lot of hiking over mountain trails. Hiking and using a stationary bike really helped my leg to improve.

After that we flew back to Cincinnati, picked up our car and headed to Steve & Cassie's. From there we went to a mission conference in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. The care and love they showed to us was very humbling. While there, we were blessed to receive a surprise invite to present one morning in a nearby church in Madisonville. Then we went to stay a few days with Margie's family in Scottsville, KY. They are old order Mennonite, and do not have electricity or solar or anything. It is a simple way of life and yet can be very busy as well. We enjoyed seeing family, the fresh produce, home cooking, and visiting without the interruption of people being glued to a phone or answering a text message.

Then we headed to Sand Gap, Kentucky, and Deer Stable Baptist Church! A great bunch of people who love the Word of God and are reaching their community. From there we headed back to Dayton for a night or two. On the way we stopped to have lunch with my nephew Daykin and his wife Melissa in Lexington. They took time out of their busy schedule, and it was great to catch up and even better to see and hear about them seeking to follow and honor God. From Dayton we went back down south to Mt Vernon, KY. Another church seeking, not to just exist, but be a light and witness. They, along with a few other churches, were holding an old-fashioned, week-long tent revival. And now we are getting ready to head back to Texas for meetings there, in Louisiana, Oklahoma, Kansas, and the regions beyond.

Opportunities: We have had the opportunity to pass out tracts and meet people all over the country. We thought the area around Seattle would be difficult, but we met some of the nicest people who were thankful for the tracts. Some were interested in finding a church and had questions about God. Even on the plane the person sitting next to us grew up in church and professed to know the Lord. It was not until we were at a gas station in Kentucky that I got rejected and told to leave him alone with some "comforting" words. While passing out Good & Evil books at a fourth of July event in Texas one guy looked at me and said, "We're satanists." I looked back at him and said, "So, how does that make you special?" He laughed; I laughed. He took the Good & Evil book, gave another one to his friend and let me give one to his kids.

Slovakia citizenship by descent: This process is moving ahead. We have all the documents and have uploaded them to the lawyer in Bratislava. It looks like either December or January for us to make a trip to Bratislava to submit our applications in person and hopefully get our citizenship.

Cambodian Radio Ministry: Last prayer letter I told you the program was funded through the end of 2026, well now it is funded through the first four months of 2027. Thank you! Thanks and praise to the Lord for providing for this program to continue. By the way, the giving for this program is coming in dedicated to the Cambodian radio program and separate from what the Lord is providing for Slovenia.

Family: Joel is about to enter phase one (basic training) at ALERT International Academy. Ariana is still in Ukraine and doing well learning the language, although having a few health issues. Jadon is finally getting close to being able to test for flight instructor. So far, his training and instruction has been erratic and he is now having to fill in the "gaps". Elicia, Elaina, Owen, & Caleb have been watching over our house at BBTI. Changing out mouse traps and checking for leaky faucets and commodes. The newlyweds, Nathanael and Liza, are doing well. We are praying for them and what God has for them in their future as they serve and walk together with Him. Margie and I are able to visit many family members as our travels take us close by where they live. Our travels will slow down this winter as we need time to sort through and clean out our earthly possessions. But we still need many more meetings over this winter.

Thank You all for your prayers and help. May the love & grace of God abound toward all of you.

The Schnell Family…. Steve, Margaret & Joel

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