

Ledbetter's IRELAND UPDATE

4.7 million
people...



...who need the
Gospel more
than ever



Craig

Nita

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty

through God to the pulling down of strong holds. 2 Corinthians 10:4

January 2021

Happy New Year everyone! Let me first say **Thank You** for all the beautiful Christmas cards, and packages that were sent to us by several churches - they blessed our hearts and encouraged us with your love! But I have to tell you, I am soooo thankful to be out of 2020 and into a new year! It really helps to close a chapter and look ahead to God opening new doors of opportunities to serve Him.

We are back under lockdown! Churches in Ireland were allowed to reopen for public worship for just a few weeks in December, but are in complete lockdown again since New Year's Eve. I still preach from my pulpit on a Sunday (albeit online), and thankfully some of our church folks gather together for prayer while I preach. But it is getting harder and harder to have any assembly of the brethren, especially because of the fears being generated by the media. People fear the slightest of chances of dying of Covid more than they fear God. It makes evangelism and ministry very difficult. You would think the opposite, with *"men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth"* (Luke 21:36), but alas, *"They have not known nor understood: for he hath shut their eyes, that they cannot see; and their hearts, that they cannot understand"* (Isaiah 44:18). And that is why my wife and I are here... *"To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins"* (Acts 26:18).

So, Discipleship continues online, as do the church services. But our people are very disconnected, and struggling, as I am sure all your people are too. And worst of all, the general population here in Ireland are being changed, and by that I mean that they are being conformed to living under the almost absolute rule of the State "for their benefit." It has been coming for a long time, but I never thought I would see it so easily implemented.

Building Projects Continue. During the many extended lockdowns over the past 9 months, several of our people have been working hard on upgrading our church buildings! It has been a delight to at least get these things done: We finished building a new and extensive **attic/storage loft** that allowed us to renovate a downstairs room into a **wonderful Fellowship Hub** for between service times; We finished our **two new top-notch bathrooms**; We **insulated the Children's Church area** so that it is much warmer; And **upgraded our sound and video systems** for our "online presence", as well as put in a new **fire alarm system!** All needed to be done, and the Lord helped us do it all!



Some things to Pray about... 1) Please continue to pray for a family whose husband (**Oleg**) was in a severe accident at work and has been made blind. He is doing very well now, but it is very hard on him and his family being locked in their home because the wife does not drive yet, and they do not know what the future holds at all. 2) For our daughter Sarah who will be starting her final semester at Pensacola Christian College at the end of this month. 3) For me to have wisdom how to adapt to a world gone crazy, that is still lost and without God. 4) For several marriages that are deeply struggling right now. 5) For new people to start getting saved in spite of the lockdown. 6) And finally, for a man, just one man, who will surrender to God's call to preach!

We love and appreciate all your sacrifices for us to be here!

Your fellow-labourers, Craig & Nita Ledbetter in Ireland

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