

I am not much of a gardener but, this year, our flower garden has been very pleasing. In the spring I put in a water feature – pond with a small stream – so Anne and I have enjoyed many hours sitting out reading or visiting with friends. This has been a special blessing, as it has given us a place of peace after Anne was diagnosed with cancer at the end of June. She has been quite remarkable in the courage she has shown, proving her favourite Biblical text: *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus* – Phil 4:6,7. The cancer first appeared on her shoulder and has been found in the breast, but the oncologist cannot locate the source so no prognosis has yet been made – leaving us in a kind of 'limbo' – with an uncertain future. We had anticipated going to Beijing in September, followed by our three-yearly trip to see our family in Australia. We are confident that the Lord will see us through this as He has always proven Himself faithful. Meanwhile, my own cancer has gone completely – Praise the Lord!

Steve and Sulwen returned to Wales after a wonderful time in Canada – we were sad to see them go! In July we had other special visitors – Derek & Eira from Australia, formerly Wales. Derek is an avid floral gardener so I was pleased to “show off” my garden. We always enjoy their visit and, this time, we were able to travel with them and other friends to Hurricane Ridge, a beauty spot in the Olympic Mountains in Washington State USA, just across the water from Victoria.

Pulpit ministry has been very little this year and I am thinking the Lord is moving me into another phase of my life. I am enjoying prayer times with Him and wonder if this is my new ministry. If so, I am asking for anointing (unction) in my praying as I often experienced such unction in my preaching. I want my prayer to have 'authority' in the heavenlies. I have spent much time walking with the Lord, with a special burden for revival – God's presence manifest in His church locally. During Lent I “gave up” playing games on my computer (I love doing 'killer sudoku!') and committed to read through an entire NT book every day for a week. Also I join with two others for weekly prayer times, again with an emphasis on revival. I need revival; my church needs revival; my country needs revival – and He deserves revival! He is worthy of the worship of the people for whom He died – and the great majority of them, including in the church, are not doing so!

Other highlights of the past few months: Attended a Provincial Government Prayer Breakfast where over 200 gathered with ~50 Members of Legislature; A recital at the local Music Conservatory by Ari Kinarthy (look him up on the web – remarkable!); Continuing to mentor young men.

Upcoming ministry opportunities:

August 5th: Elk Lake Baptist Church, Victoria BC

August 12th: Highway Community Church (Pentecostal), Sidney BC

August 19th: Highway Community Church (Pentecostal) Sidney BC

Sept 4th: Prayer Canada conference – lead session.

Sept 7th- 9th: Recovery Group (Glad Tidings Pentecostal) retreat – guest speaker.

Still rejoicing!

Gareth