



Dr. Cork and Ruth Albright

Missionaries to the Netherlands

April - May 2007

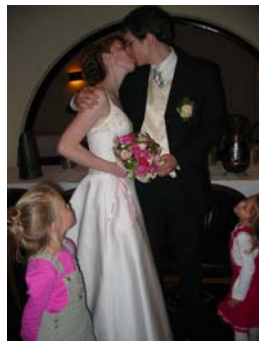
Ruth's Notes from the Heart

This newsletter will be in a different format than my usual one with my different heart throbs. We have had two very busy months and I would like to tell you about them and share some exciting prayer requests and praises!

I have been attending Ladies' Bible Studies right here in Opglabbeek for the past four months along with continuing to attend the Ladies' Bible Studies in Valkenburg. The group here in my town has about ten ladies attending. We are using the same Bible study book in both of the studies. Attending Bible studies here in Opglabbeek has given me the opportunity to meet some Christian ladies living very close to my home. How exciting it is to see these same women grocery shopping or as I ride my bike to different places. It makes Opglabbeek feel more like "home" to me. Several of these ladies are part of the prayer group Cork mentioned in his news letter. We are looking forward to see how the Lord will be using us here on a regular basis beginning in September. Please read about these plans in Cork's letter if you have not already done so.



On April 7, 2007 our youngest daughter, Angele, was married to Hilbert Monsuur. The day was perfect in every way. Of course, the wedding brought many family members our way from the States. Grandpa Matt and Jean, and Aunt Les and Uncle Bill made the long trip over and stayed a couple extra days. Amos, Christina and Caleb were here for five days. It was the fastest five days I had ever experienced. We are praying for Christina as she is expecting their second baby in October. Amy, Rachael, Julie and Melanie were here for fifty days since Griz is in Iraq. What a long and exciting



visit. Oh, how much fun we had! They left the last week in May so we are still missing them terribly! We had made some very special memories together. Melanie will not remember much of her visit but we are glad because of her age. She suffered quite a bit from teething pain while with us. The wonderful church in Valkenburg made our grandchildren feel so much at home that tears were shed from both the grandchildren and their new friends after their last Sunday service.

The Evangelische Baptistengemeente, Valkenburg is continuing to serve the Lord together. I have two ladies helping me with the monthly Bible studies now. They enjoy preparing and presenting the lessons. It is fun to share this responsibility with them. Also Tanja, a young mother with two boys in our Sunday School, is enjoying teaching the class once a month. Her boys love having their "mama" as Sunday School teacher as much as she loves being their teacher.

Please pray for us as we prepare for the summer months in Valkenburg. We have many visitors during this time and want to be a blessing each week to each and everyone who attends.

Cork's Ministry News

We are under way . . . making plans to start our fifth church . . . this time in the city of Opglabbeek. We have been meeting once a month on Monday night since November 2006. In May we met for prayer and discussed our plans.

Would you please pray with us for this new endeavor? Our society has moved from making family oriented choices to self-oriented choices. For every five married couples three will divorce within five years. We need to adapt our approach to reach this generation for Christ.

To start with we will be gathering all interested parties in groups of eight for a BBQ at our house in September. We will introduce ourselves and share our hopes and plans . . . trying to involve as many as possible. We are hoping to start weekly prayer meetings and Bible studies in October . . . starting with Sunday services when we reach twenty. We will keep the groups to around eight to ten . . . if we even get that many . . . starting a new group on a different week night in our home.

In the mean time we will advertise in newspapers and on our church website. We are praying about what sort of tract we want to use to introduce ourselves in Opglabbeek. This is a real problem . . . the theme is important and first impressions count. What other churches have been using is not working and what we have used in the past has not worked either. I am considering putting my personal testimony in tract form and giving one to every mail box. I've not tried this before and it does have its downside . . . some will misuse this type of openness as they did in our second church in Roermond when I published our home address and telephone number. I had innocently invited people to show up at our front door any time of the day or night; one woman messed with our car and bothered us for over a year.

I will work with a mobile church telephone number and a mail box at the post office and of course make use of the website. Some people become really difficult when we witness and feel it's their duty to pay us back in some form. Up until now it's been verbal harassment and occasional threats. I really don't want it to go any further.

We have asked the Dutch Christians we have lead to our Lord about putting our testimony in tract form. They have not dismissed it as out of hand but they have not endorsed it either. We are not often given the opportunity to give our testimony and when it is possible we are never allowed to give it completely. I am tired of waiting for the lost to be "in season" so as not to offend them. I am going to make a greater effort to reach them "out of season" because the "in season" does not seem to ever come.

	<p>If in the Bible there's a command, we're going to obey it; if there's an example, we're going to follow it; if there's neither command nor example, we're praying about it.</p>
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