



Cork and Ruth Albright

Missionaries to the Netherlands

December 2005 - January 2006

Ruth's Notes from the Heart

I have been asked to present a workshop at the Euro-wide Ladies' Retreat, February 2-4, in Germany again this year. My theme is "God's Music Box". His music box has a very familiar tune - "The Fruit of the Spirit" - Galatians 5: 22, 23. My, what fun I have had preparing this subject for the past three months. It has been such a blessing and I pray it will be a blessing to the ladies who attend my workshop. These verses are "Music in Motion"!

Family throb: Angele is "in love". Even though she is not officially engaged she is contemplating the important decision of where to have the wedding. Will it be in Europe or in America? There are so many things to consider in this decision. Please pray for her. She has not yet set the date but there is plenty of talk about a wedding. Amy and family will be visited by Oma (grandma), that's me, for a month. I will be with them from March 3 - April 3, so I can help when our third grandchild comes. Yes, we know the gender but we are not going to tell. Amos and Christina will be going to a church in Seminole, Florida for a year where Amos will be doing his internship. We are excited because some of the people attending the church were co-workers of mine when I worked for two years at Clearwater Christian College. What a small world we live in. They will be visiting the church at the end of February to learn Amos' responsibilities. This next step in their walk with our Lord has brought a whole bunch of excitement to Amos and Christina's household. God is helping them move ahead in His service. Please pray they will be able to sell their house in Scranton, Pennsylvania before their responsibilities begin in Florida.

Ministry throb: We are so excited to have a mother and daughter volunteer to do my Sunday School class the month I am with Amy. This will be a "training time" for the teen- age daughter. I think she will do fine and maybe when I get back from North Carolina I will be sharing my Sunday School responsibilities with her on a regular basis. What a blessing that would be!

Praise throb: The Evangelische Baptistengemeente Valkenburg is experiencing so many blessings from the Lord. All the visitors attending our Christmas Eve Service this year were unchurched family members. It was so exciting to see a wife of one of our men, a son with his entire family of one of our ladies and another son of another one of our ladies in the services. We are praying that these visitors will make some important decisions in their lives for the Lord in 2006. We praise the Lord for the faithfulness of the believers in Valkenburg.

Prayer throb: We would appreciate your continued prayers for our family. We would also appreciate your prayers for the families that had relatives visit our church. It is so exciting to see God working in our midst.

Dutch throb: The fruit of the Spirit - Galaten 5: 22, 23 - "Maar de vrucht van de Geest is liefde, blijdschap, vrede, lankmoedigheid, vriendelijkheid, goedheid, trouw zachtmoedigheid, zelfbeheersing. Tegen zodanige mensen is de wet niet."

Cork's Ministry News

For almost 30 years of ministry to the Dutch Christmas is truly one of the highlights of our year. In Holland there are actually two days set aside for Christmas . . . December 25 and December 26. In our ministry services are held on December 25 and 26 but also on Christmas Eve. Traditionally the Dutch attend church on First Christmas Day and enjoy the extended family on Second Christmas Day. It's not really hard for the extended family to get together because they often live right next door or in a neighboring town or village. The churches we have started in Holland hold their services on one of the three days Christmas is celebrated, making it possible for us to attend Christmas Services three times each year. This is the first time that we were only able to be with two of the three Dutch churches we've started as two churches held their services on First Christmas Day and one on Christmas Eve. Second Christmas Day found the Albright's (Cork, Ruth and Angele) together at home remembering Jesus' birth, being thankful for God's blessings and enjoying Christmas Dinner with Hilbert, Angele's Dutch boyfriend.

The International Baptist College Europe officially completed the first year of her Bachelors Program in December. All of the English speaking students (five from Germany and one from Belgium) passed their courses with flying colors. The French speaking part of our school started eight months after the English speaking students. Fourteen students from France and Belgium are continuing their course studies and will finish their first year in August 2006. The IBCE is located in the French speaking part of Belgium near the city of Mons (45 minutes south of Brussels). Some students and teachers drive as much as three hours to attend classes one Saturday each month. Those coming from far travel after work on Friday and stay overnight in the facilities bought by the Rawlings Foundation. Working together with other missionaries and pastors, we provide a place to sleep, three meals and quality education to equip godly men and women with the tools and knowledge needed to start Baptist churches in Europe. Courses offered this year are: Bible Atlas, Christology, English, Old Testament Survey and Acts of the Apostles. As we continue our ministry of church planting in Holland we ask you to pray with us that the International Baptist College Europe will be used by God to impact the European continent.

	<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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