

September 2022

Vineline Growth and Fruit that Remains

What a blessing and revelation this summer has been! Our 38th Anniversary in June kicked off a rapid series of trips and visits that, rather than exhausting us, were a refreshment and full of messages from Father about what He has done with our obedience.

Nawlins Roadtrip

A midwife in New Orleans needed a backup for multiple births and offered to pay Louise to “stand-by”. We went on the road through Arkansas, Texas, and Louisiana that included: camping with our Roofnest® tent, visits with dear friends in McAllen, TX, dental work for both of us over the border in Mexico (saving thousands of \$), more camping along Gulf Coast beaches, and a leisurely week-long stay at a historic New Orleans home. We did a deep-dive exploration of NOLA, mostly on bicycles, and learned to save money and make our own muffedlettas. None of the births required Louise, so we were free to “honeymoon”. The midwife paid Louise for her time and released her a couple days early so we were able to watch five separate fireworks displays from our Maumelle River campsite near Little Rock.



Practicing Hospitality on the World’s Most Hospitable People

We had almost two weeks to prepare to receive treasured family from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Erdenebayar (Bayraa) and her son Isaac came to stay with us for a month. We were all so excited.



Bayraa helped us plant the movement in Erdenet in the early 1990s and we have remained close. Isaac, 16 years old, is our godson. The plan is to have Isaac live with us and finish high school in Arkansas. This trip was to explore possibilities and nail down legalities so that next year we can host him and launch him into his Senior Year and later university.

As they went to fly from Mongolia to USA – everything went kerflooey! They were blocked from boarding and their tickets made useless. The only fix was changing the routing from Germany/London to Seoul Korea – going the opposite direction around the globe. It seemed impossible and yet God intervened. United was able to change the award ticket and friends donated miles to book another ticket. Amazing! They ended up arriving on the same flight to Arkansas. God is SO GOOD!

Their time with us was incredibly affirming. To experience supernatural fruit, not just in our disciples but in their disciples – even across national and ethnic borders was beyond our dreams of 30 years ago.

Let me share one dramatic example. Between 1998-2005 Brian returned to Mongolia to train up our former disciples to go to the nations and plant churches as we had done for them. One of these was a young woman named Oakleaf (pseudonym) who followed a call to Afg__stan. Many divine appointments made this mission possible; including a few in our small northern California town that continue to stun us to this day. Oakleaf went to the Haz__ people group, descendants of Genghis Khan's Mongolian soldiers, and saw the Gospel take root in this terribly persecuted Shiite Muslim minority. As the Taliban retook the country many had to flee to survive. Oakleaf and other Mongolian believers created a haven for Haz__-folk in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia as students at a Christian University. She asked Bayraa to "catch" them at the airport and help them to adjust to a very different culture. Bayraa ended up serving as the "Mongolian Mother" for several years and through many challenges led them to Christ and disciplined these Haz__ students. Eventually the UN resettled them, many to the USA and some to other lands. There is one community in Memphis TN.

When the Haz__ heard that their "Mother" was in the USA they organized a gathering in Memphis, even flying in from Denver and Chicago. Brian drove our Mongolian guests across the state to meet the Hazara and they arrived in time for a full Sunday lunch, house, church, pizza dinner, games, etc. that went on until nightfall. Then we split up for gender-based sleepovers. The next day was more party time and eating. Brian was introduced to this group as the one who had planted the Mongolian Church and trained up its workers to reach the Haz__ – a sort of Spiritual Grandfather. Wow! Another unreached group that will attend the Lamb's Wedding.

When you step out your front door in obedience to Christ, you step into an adventure that you have no idea where it will end up!

There were so many other great experiences with Bayraa and Isaac, but space doesn't allow. We loved showing them the Ozarks and getting to know our wonderful godson more deeply.



Isaac having fun on Beaver Lake



Mark and Brian at Christ of the Ozarks

Having a Blast with a Blast from the Past

Mark Gilliland was Brian's close friend in 1978-1980 at Crescenta Valley High School. When Brian came to faith, he introduced Mark to the Gospel as well. They formed a small church (didn't know to call it that) to grow this new group of believers. Brian went to college and except for a single visit to Mark with Louise in 1984 when we were engaged, he didn't see or hear from Mark for decades. At long last they reconnected and found that they still shared Jesus, and so many wonderful youthful memories. Brian has visited Mark several times in New York, Connecticut, Boston, etc. and was thrilled Mark took vacation time and came to our place for a 4-day visit. We had a glorious time exploring the Ozarks trails and waterfalls and just hanging out. What a gift. Please come visit us if you can. You are welcome!

Upcoming – please pray

We have trips planned:

Brian - Southern California to help the Mongolian son of one of our Erdenet disciples get settled at college and in the USA. Additionally, to see my dad, visit old friends and a supporting church in Burbank.

Brian - Mongolia in Oct/Nov to share at the National Mission Conference

Both of us - India in December to train traditional birth attendants (Louise) and church planters (Brian).

The GAP - An international gathering of church multiplication workers in the Holy Land in March. Please pray for the planning team, finances, and for grants to help those from the developing world.

Many blessings,

Brian and Louise Hogan

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DISCIPLE MAKING MENTORS ○ 4DMM.ORG ○ 2322 N. HUMMINGBIRD LN., FAYETTEVILLE, AR 72703

4DMM@4DMM.org ○ (707) 479-0182