



The Gaudet Family

For Souls Still Waiting...

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"The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it." Psalm 68:11

Burma (officially: Myanmar)

Jan-Feb 2021

I'm sure most of you have seen news reports of the military in Burma staging a coup, assuming control of government. Many leaders in the west have expressed grave concern over the actions of the military. News from there paints a gloomy picture for the people. Protests are widespread and it is feared that the government will harshly punish the population as they did during their last rule 1962-2011.

In March 1988, during a protest by students at the Rangoon Institute of Technology a student was shot dead by the military. His death triggered more protests by not only the students but many people throughout the country. In September of 1988 the army cracked down and opened fire on protesters. Human rights groups said that at least 3,000 were killed. Upwards to 3,000 more were put in prison by the military. Many were never heard from again. Thousands more fled the country.

Please pray for the people of Burma as many have begun to protest the military coup under which the country is currently living. Access to social media, most email and indeed the Internet in general have been restricted. That has in turn limited contact with the outside world.

Also please do not forget to pray that the Gospel will go forward and not be hindered during this time.

Early in our ministry in Thailand we began receiving containers of Bibles, New Testaments, Gospel portions, and tracts for Burma. In those days navigating government interference and corruption elevated the cost of shipping from Thailand into Burma upwards to \$25,000. Since a civilian government assumed control, the price has been only a small fraction of that. This is just to illustrate how we should be interceding in these days as the military takes over again.



Health;

The wide-ranging implications of Online ministry in general; web sites and smartphone Apps specifically are humbling to consider. All this has really overwhelmed me as I consider the potential impact. We better learn how to reach people using the tools before us now. The rest of the world has already implemented it. Smartphones are everywhere, even in improvised nations where they are very inexpensive. Pray brethren, pray!

As a little background, I have been experiencing debilitating back and leg pain since 4 failed back surgeries at the end of 2019. This pain has greatly affected my mobility; standing, walking, even to the extent of sitting in front of a computer is limited. I have depended on mobile devices; a smartphone and tablet for basic communication.

I was told by 5 doctors that there was nothing they could do either to correct or relieve the pain for me. Everything has been tried including inserting a trial of the **Spinal Cord Stimulator**. After seven days, this device was removed and it was determined that it did not provide enough relief to continue with the permanent one.

After nearly one year of dealing with this the last of those doctors referred me to a Neurosurgeon. He studied my last MRI and asked me a ton of questions. Then he told me *"I don't get to say this to everyone that comes in, but I know exactly what your problem is and it CAN be fixed!"* To tell you the truth, I almost jumped up and shouted! I had waited a year to hear this from any doctor and told him that!

The scans showed several collapsed disks which were pinching off the normal function of a nerve that runs through to my legs. That explained the extreme lower back and leg pain.

Krinny and I are asking God to lead us to the right **time** for that surgery. Between the procedure and in-house rehab, I will be in the hospital for 2-1/2 weeks! Please pray with us about this. We must consider two issues: Covid-19 is keeping the hospitals tied up and everything is harder to navigate. Also, Krinny is having medical issues and is working through several Dr's visits and tests now. I feel we need to at least get to the bottom of this and some relief for her first.

I must not close this article without giving the Lord praise! During the last few months, He has given me 2-3 hours of freedom from the worst of the pain most days! How I praise Him for it!

Online ministry:

We can report good progress with the development of the App for continuing and expanding outreach with the Gospel. We are now receiving input from those reviewing it for form and function.

While that is going forward, so has work on the different language Bible texts for hosting. I have learned how little I understood of how work like this is done!

From Krinny:

Most of you would say that the year of 2020 was a pretty bad year all the way around. It caught Tom and I in a situation that we did not expect. Number one was our health. Tom had 4 surgeries on his back at the end of 2019 and from those he has never recovered. About March of 2020, my personal health also took a nosedive, and for all of that year we have been in very bad shape health wise. Because of the many prayers of God's people, we have made it to 2021 alive and perhaps getting a little better. Neither of us have had Covid, and for that we are grateful.

Our daughter and her family have been locked down in Lithuania for most of the year due to Covid. They have been able to have church services only sporadically. Like everywhere else in the world, things over there have been bad. None of the

kids are in "real" school. They are muddling through and doing well health wise. No matter what happens, God is good all the time, and that gives us hope and we rest in Him.

Tom and I have lost several close friends last year and that is always hard. It was made more difficult in that friends and family were prohibited from visiting them in the hospital due to Covid. Even the funerals were restricted in size as to family and friends who would attend.

Many of you have gone through the same thing. It is good to know that we will see them again soon. Please continue to pray for us. I have not been in church services but a few times in many months. Tom is able to go when he can and that is good. Our Church already had streaming set up before lock-downs, so I haven't missed of our morning or evening services and I am very grateful for this. Take care and please keep praying for us, while we continue to recover. We love all of you and are so thankful that we have people like you who faithfully pray for us.

— In Closing: —

Please be aware if you are subscribed to the email lists below (*Gaudet Family Updates* or *Global Intercessors*) or get our printed *Prayer Letters* that due to the debilitating pain I have been in for these past months, these things had to be curtailed in spite of our dependence upon the intercessory prayers of God's people. Please pray that we would soon be able to step them all up again. The need for prayer is not lessened.

As many of you know, missionary Milton Martin passed away early in 2020. Of course, that was right after the Covid

lock-downs happened. It was also about the time that my back and leg pain became severe. All of that was said to explain our absence from the lists.

Please note an email change for me. I have had to transition to tom@gaudetfamily.org.

Surely no missionary has had more faithful supporters and prayer warriors as we do. Thank you for your love for us and patience with us over these past years.

E-Mail Updates:

We would love to have you subscribe to our e-mail updates. Over the years as this work has grown, we have seen the value of having nearly instantaneous communication with our prayer partners and supporters. We are only able to get 3-4 of these printed newsletters out via postal mail each year. However, we send e-mail updates as many times as is demanded by the situation, but it is never frivolous.

To subscribe, please go to www.gaudetfamily.org and enter your e-mail address in the Subscribe box. You will then be subscribed to the *Gaudet Family Updates*. Thank you for considering it. If you only get these newsletters a lot occurs that simply cannot be reported here.

Global Intercessors Posts:

We would also like to invite you to receive the posts from Global Intercessors.

To do so, please go to www.GlobalIntercessors.org. On that main page on the right side you will find a Sign-up box. Insert your e-mail address there and you will be notified when a new post is made to the site.

Information can fuel effective Intercession. Join many others who are focused on intercession. Together we can be used to make a world-wide impact.

Please pray for us as we tool up to be used of the Lord in this important work.

Tom and Karin (Krinny) Gaudet

Missionaries since 1979

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