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A New Year at the House of Faith

As we step into 2024, with all the new situations it will bring, we thank God for all He continues to do through ICC for His glory.

With a lot of uncertainty in the world right now, we are so grateful to have a King who is in control, and who is faithful and constant. This year, He has already brought new faces and

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families joining us from refugee camps in Greece.

one of the new arrivals practicing on the keyboard

One family moved into a safe house this week, having faced harrasment and bullying in the camp by radical muslims. The 12 year old daughter had become very withdrawn and anxious as a result. But when she arrived at the House of Faith for the first time, it was so humbling to see how the presence of the Holy Spirit produced peace in her.

The following week, she was poorly so her mum told her they wouldn't be coming to the House of Faith until she was better. She began to cry, saying she felt much better and begged to come back!

Others who visited for the first time shared how safe and relieved they felt to be there.

I'm so happy that I've found good and caring friends. I am so happy we are with you, so that we can grow in our faith. I can feel God's light when I'm with you and I understand the truth and patience and love of Jesus even more than before. Thank you! - "Fatemeh"

We have God first and we hope in God, then we have the earthly angels who came to us from God. I trust in God and I know that He is kind and powerful. I only just found ICC but you are already so valuable to us. You are the servants of God who help us. I am grateful to God for sending us here. Thank you for giving us hope and showing us that we are not alone. - "Leyla"

Although the believers in ICC Athens are now safe from persecution, they still have many difficulties to overcome. Life is not easy for them, and they carry a lot of pain and trauma. They are also hungry for discipleship and bible teaching. The House of

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Faith and the safe houses are a lifeline for them. They need your prayers.

We need your prayers dear ones, your prayers are encouragement and peace to us. - one of the Athens flock

Thank you to all of you who continue to enable this sanctuary and support. Thank you for standing with us.



Rejoicing in Our Sufferings

This week, we heard from some brothers in Afghanistan who had been out of contact for a few months. They described 2023 as "the year of crying and weeping for Afghan Christians".

They shared how when the Taliban took over,

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their faith was not so strong and they ran away to Pakistan. But

when they got there, God told them very clearly to go back. They told us how their flesh really didn't want to go back into that fiery furnace... but they obeyed anyway.

Now, they are strong in their faith, and working underground to make new disciples, despite great risk and danger. They have so much they can teach the western church about standing firm and walking in obedience even in times of great trials, persecutions and tribulation.

This past year, we thought maybe the situation would change and get better, but day by day we saw that Taliban are getting more powerful and stronger and the situation is getting worse. But we didn't lose our hope and we believe that God's power and authority is more than this darkness that has come here.

The thing that has actually strengthened us in our faith and made us more loyal to our Lord is the persecution we face. We learn through these hardships that our faith becomes more matured and God purified us in the fire here. Now, we rejoice in our sufferings for His name.

When there's a knock at the door, I don't know who is behind the door – is it the Taliban come to arrest me? And every time I go out, I'm worried when my phone rings – I worry it will be my wife or family saying I have to go home because Taliban came to arrest me. But we are not afraid. Fear is from Satan. We live by faith and strength of God and grace of God.

We are so grateful and happy to have you and your prayers. Sometimes we feel weak and our flesh starts to feel scared, but talking and praying with you really strengthens and encourages us. We feel stronger knowing we are not alone. Please pray for us and for God to be glorified through our situation.



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Eye Surgery Update

Thank you to all who were praying for our dear sister in Kabul, as she had surgery on her eyes. For the first time in a long time, she can see clearly. She couldn't hide the smile from her face as she told us about how she can see now. She is so grateful to God.

Please keep her and her family in your prayers. They are struggling particularly to keep fear at bay as the Taliban have been snatching young women and girls to force them into sexual slavery, selling

Beautiful smile after being able to see again

some for \$500 to overseas 'buyers'. Please pray for them to know the protection of our King and His perfect peace in the midst of a terrifying situation.



Yemen Update

Please keep praying for the families in Yemen. They have been enduring too much and are exhausted and battered. They need your prayers.

Please pray especially for healing and for their protection. And also for us as we try to help them. The situation is very complex and difficult. We hope to give you more updates later, but for now, please don't forget about them.





Current ICC Needs

The ICC car broke down again this week. It had to go into the garage for a couple of days for repairs. Thankfully, during this repair work, the mechanics finally found the root cause of our main car troubles! Bad news is we need around £2,000 to fix it. We need a replacement engine (much cheaper than buying a new second-hand car here!). Please pray for the funds to cover this. We really need the car.

The Goshen retreat facility has been in use now for 3 years, and the tents are getting worn from UV and weather. We will need to replace them this year. Please pray for the resources to cover this cost (they are good quality, robust glamping tents, so are not cheap!)

Funds to cover our essential running costs - these are hard to raise funds for, but without these costs being covered, ICC can't operate.

It is a privilege to serve our King in this work, but it's also hard. Please pray for our protection, and for strength, help and provision. May God be glorified in all that ICC does!

[Make a Donation](#)



Thank You - Logo Meghan Trainor



Your faithful support, words of encouragement and prayers are more valuable than we can say. Thank you for walking beside us, and not forgetting the needs of your brothers and sisters in these difficult places and circumstances. We appreciate every single one of you!

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