May 9, 2024

Dear Pastor and Praying Friends,

One of the many great joys of being in the ministry is officiating a wedding. It is even more special when that wedding is one of your children. On April 21 I was able to officiate the wedding of our son Caleb at the Castle McCulloch in Jamestown, North Carolina. We are grateful that the Lord brought Caleb and Ayla together and are excited to have her as part of our family. The day after the wedding, we enjoyed brunch with the newlyweds before they left to their honeymoon destination.

Weddings also bring the family together. It was nice to see my parents and siblings. It has been several years since we were all together. We also spent a few days with our oldest son, our daughter, and three of our four grandchildren. By the time you receive this, our fifth grandchild will have arrived.

On our return from the States, DeAnna and I stopped in England wanting to visit RAF Upper Heyford base where we had served thirty years ago. We learned that for many years the base was vacant; however, now a new housing development

has been built, and a new community called Heyford Park is now there. Even with the new construction, we saw some buildings from when we were stationed there, including the building where we worked. We recognized several other places as well. The best part of the trip happened when we drove to Steeple Aston where the military church, Victory Baptist Church, once stood. This was the church where DeAnna and I were both saved and I was called to preach. The soccer field where we played softball was still there, but the church building and fellowship hall have been torn down and a basketball court and playground have been constructed. The spot brought back many memories of services, revivals, fellowships, and workdays in which we participated.







Now that we have returned to our church in Spain, we are excited to see how God is blessing us. On Easter Sunday we had a parking lot full of cars with many people attending. Every year since we arrived in Spain, we have started Easter with breakfast at the church. This year we had 35 people come for breakfast. This past Sunday we finished our third book with the book club; it is always a joy to sit and discuss what parts of the book impacted us. We look forward to another blessing soon when one of the ships carrying several people who attend our church will return to port. I email these friends and stay in touch with them as best as possible, but it will be good to have them in our services again.

Please pray for our military men and women. Thank you for your faithful prayers and support that allow us to minister to our military men and women here in Spain.

In Christ, Michael and DeAnna Staley