

March 4, 2021

*"Verily, verily, I say unto you, except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit."* John 12:24

Dear Friends and Family,

Marie and I met with our Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board in March, 1951 and were officially appointed to serve in India. They requested that I go to Summer School so we could depart in January, 1952. I did that work at Columbia Bible College that summer and we visited every Free Will Baptist Church in South Carolina that summer. I came from Free Will Baptist Bible College to attend the South Carolina State Association in Lancaster in November, 1951. The State Association voted to support us and our ministry in India. We were not able to depart until October, 1952. By that time, our Father had blessed us with a precious baby girl. The three of us sailed from New York on October 17, 1952.



Those of you who have prayed for and supported us know our story. Our wee Sheila Marie went to be with our Lord from Allahabad, India on March 17, 1953. Your broken missionaries kept busy with language study and the beginning of our work in Sonapurhat. We have sent many letters and have visited most of our churches and in many of your homes from 1951 to 2021. You will know that our Father blessed us with three precious children all born in India, Brenda Kay, Don and Mark. All three of them graduated from high school in India and then returned to USA. All of them love our dear Indian people and go back and serve them as they are able to do so. My dear life mate was called HOME on April 23, 1998. Now, we have two Hanna graves in India.

Our son and his wife, Don and Milly, went with me to Sonapurhat for our Annual Conference in March, 2020. Our Promotional Director, Bro. Chris Todd, met us there for the conference. As soon as the conference was over we had to rush all our people from Nepal across the border before it was sealed. Bro. Chris returned to USA. Don and Milly went to western India and were not able to return to Sonapurhat. I suffered a stroke in April on Good Friday. Don was able to talk with a Christian doctor there and tell him what to do for me. I am thankful for the ability He gave for me to work the six months I was there. I was able to get a new visa for a year and returned to USA on August 30, 2020.

From March, 1951 to March, 2021 means I have had seventy years in His service. Seed has been sown and much fruit has come forth. Now, it is time for me to retire as I am not able to do the work now. I expect to retire on March 31, 2021. Our son, Don, is one of our thirty ordained ministers in North India. We would like him to continue to lead our work in both North and South India. He has been a part of the work all his life and has no language difficulty. We trust our International Mission and Friends of India will continue their prayers and financial support for him and our pastors and work in India.

Thank you for your continued prayers for me, for our family and for our Indian family and for your financial support.

In His glad service,

*Carlisle Hanna*

