



The Thatchers

Waterford, Ireland



- Ireland's population, 4.5 million
- 34% of population 25 years old or younger
- Dublin's population over 1.2 million
- Waterford's population over 46,000
- 85% still claim to be Roman Catholic

Email:

thatchers@bimi.org

Sending Church:

Fostoria Baptist Church
8933 Fostoria Road
Fostoria, MI 48435
(989) 795-2185

Serving with:

Baptist International
Missions Inc.
P.O. Box 9
Harrison, TN 37341
(423) 344-5050



Dear Friends,

February 2023

The 2022 year closed with the Lord bringing a Polish lady who is a believer and her early teen daughter to our church. They live in the next county over from us and drive just over an hour on Sunday to come to church. They seem to be really glad to come to hear the Word of God preached.

In mid-January we had a Friday evening church fellowship and game night. It has been some time since we have had an evening like this. I was a great time of interaction together. The adults enjoyed the games as much or more than the kids.

We then began the month of February with a men's Saturday morning prayer time. We looked at Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth. Our focus was on be still, but not just the aspects of quiet and motionless. We gave some thought to quiet attentive listening in the midst of lives that are full of distractions.

A couple weeks back in mid-January we received some news. Our landlord had come down and wanted to have a chat. I had a bit of a bad feeling about what he was wanting to chat about. Well, the conversation was of such that he was coming around to inform us that we were going to have to move out of this house. That was a real gut-wrenching moment. We have lived for almost 10 year in this house. The news was very hard for my wife and our kids. A lot of tears were shed be each of us as this news settled in over the course of that week. Our landlord has adult married kids, and they have ideas of some things that they want to do here.

There are a few issues for us in this. First, we have viewed where we live as our home , not just a house. Lisa has done a lot over the years to make any house that we have lived in a home. The further issue is that it is not just a matter of looking and finding another house. Ireland has taken in 60,000 Ukrainians since the war began. For some of you that may not sound like much when you consider what is happening at the USA southern border. But for a country of nearly 5 million people, it has become a big factor concerning housing in Ireland. Ireland was facing a housing crisis before the Ukrainians came and were having serious struggles to provide housing as it was. The rental market is seriously without much of anything to offer. The buying market is ridiculously way overpriced. We are not sitting on money to buy and in looking to find another rental we also need to find a house that is unfurnished. The Irish market historically came with furnished houses. We have our own furniture as such so that makes it another issue to deal with as well. We have no idea concerning where, what, how...just that we need to be out by October. This all will require much prayer and for the Lord to perform a Red Sea miracle. So, Brethren, Pray for us and with us!

May the Lord find us faithful,
Don and Lisa Thatcher & Family