



January 2026



## DAVID & CATHIE SANDIFER

with Annabelle (15) and Josiah (12)

Serving the Lord in the Netherlands



*'He brought me out into a broad place...' Psalm 18:19*

### Dear friends

Happy New Year to you in our Lord Jesus! As we begin a new year here where God has sent us, we are so very conscious of His faithfulness to us these last five and half years. We have faced quite a few challenges here, but God has brought us through each of them, and strengthened us in the process. We truly feel that He has placed us in a *broad* place, with many opportunities to minister in His name and the strength and gifts to do so. Praise His name! And we are so thankful to each of you for making it possible for us to be here.

### Ministry Update

The last term was both very busy and very fruitful for David in his teaching. More teaching hours than usual meant more work, but also more interaction with the students--that's been a great joy and encouragement!

We were particularly blessed this past term to have three German students join us from FTH Giessen, in Germany. This is a sister seminary that we have an on-going relationship with, and some of their students will do one semester at Tyndale. This year, all three of them were in my 'Ethics and worldview' class, and they both added a lot to our discussions, and seemed to really benefit from the course.

This month begins David's academic sabbatical at Tyndale--he will continue to lead his department and mentor students, but will not be teaching in favour of more time for research and preparation. He is looking forward to this season both as a 'catch-up' and an opportunity to become more effective in his teaching.



David with Johannes, Michl and Anja, from Germany.

Once again, Cathie helped to organise a Christmas children's event this year at Tyndale, and once again a few families from the neighborhood joined us--mostly new. We are so thankful for those who come, and the conversations that result. Little by little, we are making more connections in our neighborhood and more seed is being sown.

We thank you for your prayers for our friend Dan who was battling cancer: the Lord took him home a few days before Christmas. Please continue to pray for his wife and four children. Please pray also for the international church he was pastoring in Amsterdam, Liberty Church. On New Year's Eve, the building they had been using caught fire and has been condemned for the foreseeable future. We feel that this is a real attack from the enemy as this church has grown dramatically the last several years, and God has been using them to bring many young adults to the Lord.

On the Via church front, we are very excited that we will be starting an Alpha class on 19 January--hopefully you will receive this in time to pray for our launch! This is a big step of faith for us, so we are really praying that God will use it to help us build bridges in our community and draw some to Himself. We are so thankful that two people have signed up who found us through the Alpha website!



*The historic Vondelkerk burning on New Year's Eve.*



*Our first snow since 2021!*

## Family News

We have been enjoying the cool start of the year as a family. Josiah is steadily progressing in his studies, and showing promise as an orator, in particular. Annabelle has a heavy schedule this term, as she has signed up to take a New Testament Greek intensive at Tyndale, in addition to her four regular classes--so far she is managing to juggle it all! Cathie is staying very busy on her end overseeing the children's studies alongside her ministry responsibilities.

On the health front, we are thankful that so far we have come through the flue season mostly unscathed, though there are some serious infections around us. We give thanks that God has near-miraculously sustained David for nearly 12 years with his pulmonary hypertension. He is now having to switch one of his two medications, because of worsening side-effects of the one he was on previously. We appreciate your prayers for this transition.

## Give thanks

- For a lovely family Christmas break
- For a fruitful teaching term for David at Tyndale
- For continued good health
- For growing connections in our village
- For God's guidance and confirmation for recent decisions at church
- For the Lord's daily encouragement

## Please pray

- For God to draw in those He has prepared for the Alpha course at our church
- For God to oversee all the logistics for the Alpha course, especially as we have a small team
- For God to protect, lead and empower Liberty Church in a difficult season
- For Annie and Josiah to continue to grow in their studies and their spiritual lives
- For us to grow in displaying the fruits of the Spirit in every area of our lives

*From David, Cathie, Annabelle and Josiah*



[cms.org.au/sandiferdc](https://cms.org.au/sandiferdc)



[dcsandifer@cms.org.au](mailto:dcsandifer@cms.org.au)



AUS: [give.cms.org.au/dcsandifer](https://give.cms.org.au/dcsandifer)



US: [give.sams-usa.org/project/sams-collaborative-missionaries-david-and-cathie-sandifer](https://give.sams-usa.org/project/sams-collaborative-missionaries-david-and-cathie-sandifer)