

2018 was a red letter year for the Brant family. It's been 12 years since all our kids and grandkids were together in one place. It marked Howie's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. It was the year we were honored by both our Bible College and SIM, our mission. We give thanks to God and look forward with excitement and anticipation to what lies ahead.

We head for Ethiopia Jan 14 for three months. We'll be at the top of a prayer mountain with 100,000 Ethiopians praying for world missions. Then two back-to-back Pastor Training seminars. We will be teaching at the Gurage Bible School for three months, with two different classes--one in English as well as the one which has been running now since 2011 in Amharic. We will participate in a "peace conference" between two warring ethnic groups. Over the next three months, 10 guests are will add their gifts teaching and working on school projects.

"Why keep going back?" Yes, we do love Ethiopia, and the Gurage people...but our heart's desire is to drive the gospel as deep as we possibly can where we first took the Gospel. Our focus is the challenge of pouring our lives into 35 students who will join all the others now trained. They will lead the Gurage church for years to come. There are still large areas of Gurage yet to be evangelized. We are motivated by the words of our Savior who said, "Work while it is day...the night comes when no one can work."

We ask you to pray: There are some divisions in the church that need reconciliation. There are new leaders and wisdom for those stepping down. We know health and strength comes from the Lord. Pray for the anointing of God's Spirit in the classroom and in the many conference and churches where we will be speaking. We are asking God to do the unexpected, the supernatural, to grant divine appointments with kingdom impact!

We send our love to you and wish you a wonderful Christmas and Happy New year.

## Howie and Jo-Ann Brant