Dear Friends,

July 2022

If you know me or have visited me in my home, you know I enjoy putting jigsaw puzzles together. And that fact leads on to why I have so much satisfaction making quilts. There are similarities between the two activities. There are also many spiritual lessons from quilts and puzzles. As I thought how long overdue this newsletter is, it occurred to me how these two hobbies might be a good focus for this letter, so here goes.

My daughter, Heidi, her husband, Anthony, and their 3 children came to visit from Turkey for 3 weeks and I had a 300 piece puzzle on my coffee table that we worked on. When that was finished I brought out a 500 piece Eastern Blue Bird puzzle. That was much harder at least when we finished the bird. Kurt got the idea of dividing the rest of the pieces



among the 4 of us and we tried each piece in the corner of the puzzle we were working on. What didn't work we shoved on to the next person and the next. Every once in awhile someone would say, "Oh, I got two more pieces in." Yes, we eventually had every difficult piece in place, found the "lost" piece on the floor and the stray piece under a nearby book. It was truly a family project.

Oftentimes in life, I think, we give up in putting the enormous jigsaw puzzle of life together. If we walk away instead of taking the time and energy needed to work on the puzzle of life, then we never see the glorious picture. A. Begg, one of my favorite Bible teachers, in his devotional for June 9 asks, "Are you carrying around pieces of the Bible in your mind without putting them together, and then standing back to see the beautiful picture of Jesus, arms outstretched, ready to save those who will come to Him in repentance and faith?"



Heidi and her family are gone now and the house is very quiet. Busy footsteps, bursts of laughter, focused intensity, reading books together, baking cookies, spinning at the park, watching the David performance at Sight and Sound, looking at pictures, talking and more talking, is very different than my house right now.

I'm now focusing on getting a refugee family in my basement apartment. I was naïve to think that it would happen so fast already and because we don't have public transport around Douglassville they are not wanting to send a family here. Maybe I can be temporary housing instead? I am preparing to lead a summer Bible Study for my neighborhood like I did last summer. Included you will find the first lesson. Let me know if you want the following lessons too.

My speaking has slowed since Covid-19 two years ago, but I am still wanting to speak. Can you help me get the word out that I am still available? Please refer people to my website: GraceFabian.com or my phone: 610-385-1505.

With less speaking I have been doing a lot of quilting. I can't share with you the pictures of the one for my grandson, Ethan, who will only see it when he graduates from high school next year, but this photo shows one that I gave to a friend to auction for their church's missions program fundraiser. Like it?



I'm also making good progress on writing my next book.

Yes, it's also about puzzles. It's coming together finally. Which title do you like better-- 'The Jigsaw Puzzles of Life' or 'Completing the Puzzle'?

Thank you for puzzling through life with me,

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Grace

P.S. 2022 marks the 80-year anniversary of Wycliffe Bible Translators, founded in 1942 by William Townsend.



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