

# Doug and Erlene Johnson

*1 Peter 5:10 "God himself will restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you."*

November 2017



Erlene & Doug

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## Prayer Pleas

Doug's health  
Erlene's lymphedema  
Erlene's ministry at MRAP/MRI  
The ministry & team of MRAP/MRI  
Visiting guests of MRAP/MRI  
(missionaries & pastors)  
Meridith  
Kate & family  
Chris & family

The new last few months have been eventful in our home and in the ministry.

## **What's Happening in Ministry**

We lost one of our MRI team members, with whom I was close. Please pray for Jim in the loss of his wife.

MRI hosted Agape Care training, a week-long seminar where we trained pastors, missionaries, and church staff in Christian counseling. I (Erlene) was involved in putting together the material and presenting many of the topics, including communication, grief, counseling goals, and others.

MRI participated in Missions Fest Seattle, where we did several workshops. I co-presented a workshop on trauma, preparing people to deal with their own trauma and to minister to the traumatized.

We continue to minister to hurting missionaries and pastors. Here is a testimony from a couple I recently worked with:

*When my wife and I scheduled our time at MRI we were experiencing the affects of 20+ years of trying really hard to be good pastors, spouses and parents. I was at one of the lowest points of my life, full of frustration and anger over the perceived lack of accomplishment and years of personal disappointments. I felt as if the weight of these things was drowning me as I struggled to be free. Praise God Who is full of grace and mercy as He prepared a team of people to honestly and gracefully extend the tools I could not seem to find. The MRI team came alongside of my wife and I to see me to the surface where I could take a deep breath. Not only was I enabled to begin to be freed from the weights that were holding me under but I was equipped with scriptural truth-based swimming lessons to keep me on top and moving towards a thriving life. I could sense God's hands in the lives of this team as they prayed daily for God's plan and His wisdom for my wife and myself. Words cannot express what God has done in my heart over the past 2 weeks. All I can say is I have a God-given anticipation for the future and a renewed vitality in my relationship with my wife as we walk into the future hand in hand drawing our strength from God through a set of renewed hearts.*



## **What's Happening in Life**

We have moved twice. The first house was stressful and chaotic; the landlady lived downstairs and caused us difficulty because she didn't like any noise. But we are happy where we are now. (See our new address in the box on the left.)

We lost our brother-in-law. Doug spent a couple weeks in Wisconsin with his family and spoke at the service.

**Erlene:** I broke my ankle and have been on crutches and a walking boot. I'm really not coordinated enough to use crutches well. But it seems to be healing well, and I will be walking normally again soon.

I am taking 2 masters classes this fall. The spiritual formation class is encouraging and insightful. The theories and techniques class is informative and helpful .

**Doug:** Doug continues to struggle with the physical pain of psoriatic arthritis. He loves northern Wisconsin, and spending time with his family there was great.

**Chris:** Chris is returning from deployment soon. He has spent several months in the Far East.



MRI's mission is to enhance the life quality, ministry effectiveness and longevity of those in ministry.

We believe God's love heals and that God loves those He sends as much as those to whom He sends them.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

***Erlene & Doug Johnson***  
***Serving Missionaries and Pastors at MRAP/MRI***  
***God's love renews.***