

January - March  
2022

# The Elwart Family

Planting **Big Bear Baptist Church** in Big Bear, CA

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Current Support Level:

**100%**



**Praise the Lord we are fully supported!!!!**

*“And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him.” - Luke 5:11*

Well, it has been an amazing start to the year! We were able to travel to some area churches here in Southern California, getting to know some likeminded pastors and churches. It was such a blessing to see faithful brothers and sisters serving the Lord and reaching the people God has called them to in their Jerusalem.

It was exciting to hear so many people express their excitement and thankfulness that we were starting a church in Big Bear. It excited us to hear of their firsthand knowledge of the need as so many we met travel to Big Bear for vacation but haven't had anywhere to worship the Lord there for so long.

Jan. and Feb. were extremely busy months as we continued getting things settled in our home and prepping for the church start. Our girls were able to get settled back into doing school in a stationary place...which is a huge blessing. Doing school on the road can be very tough at times, so it's wonderful to have a fairly consistent schedule of school at the same time and place each day. Brittany has done an amazing job keeping things in order while taking care of the kids at the same time. She is an amazing woman, and I am so grateful for her!

The boys are growing so quickly. They've been such a

source of joy and laughter in our home, like their sisters. They've settled into our new home nicely.

We spent a lot of time getting things together for the launch of the church which was March 27-31. We were able to get about 10-11,000 custom John/Romans shipped here that were provided by Baptist Church Planting Ministry. BCPM also helped with a million other details in getting the church started. We're so thankful for their ministry! I highly recommend them to any church and pastor.

We had some churches from SoCal help us pack most of our door hanger bags with the John/Romans and invitations to our Grand Opening week. We're so grateful for them!

We also had quite a few churches bring groups up during the month of March to help hang them on houses all over our community. We were able to get out over 5,000 door hangers, and we saw MANY people come to our opening meetings as a result of those invitations alone.

We were blessed by a number of supporting churches giving special love offerings to help with the church plant. We were able to use those funds for many of the printing projects and the purchase of all of the physical

items to get the church started. We are so thankful for the sacrifice of so many!

We had 4 missions teams come in from out of state to help with our Get Acquainted Week and Grand Opening Sunday services. We had a number of churches from SoCal come up to help and attend our services that week. We had an innumerable host of people praying for our family, the people of Big Bear, and those special meetings...and God showed up in a great way.

We saw new guests from the community each night. The fellowship was sweet, the attendance, enthusiasm, and excitement was intense. It was an amazing 8 days from Sunday to Sunday.

Basically, we want you to know that everything that took place was because of God and the help of so many others that joined in. We know that we couldn't have done it alone...and we didn't. God's people from all over the country stepped in, chipped in, and helped out. Many prayers were prayed, many miles walked, many hours given. We pray lives were changed. It was all for God and His glory, and we pray that He uses the labors of His people to bring about much fruit for His glory. He is to be praised!!!!

*Sending Church:*  
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