

Dear Praying Friends, OCT 15, 2025

I apologize for the late letter. Over the summer and into the fall we have seen both encouraging steps and real challenges. God continues to work all things together for good, and we remain grateful to serve Him here. At Desert Streams Baptist Church we have continued to reach, teach, and follow up. In my last letter I mentioned Bridget and asked prayers for her continuance as well as for her brother-in-law to be saved. She has not been to church since Easter, although she stays in touch and says she plans to return. Please pray for her to overcome some mental battles and to yield to the Spirit. I am trusting the Lord to complete the work He began. We also saw a young man named Trevon trust Christ. He was full of spark at first and I was eager to baptize and disciple him. The pull of the world has been strong. I am still in contact and am working to help him get back to church. He expresses the desire to be there. Please pray that desire will turn into faithful steps.

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In August our family made the long drive to North Carolina to see relatives we had not seen since moving to California. During that trip, with help from the deacons in both churches, we completed the sale of our old bus. When I returned, we used the funds to install a mini-split in the kids building. This was a much-needed improvement and a true blessing to our children's ministry.

September brought a special kid's event with thirty-eight children in attendance. A couple of prospective families expressed interest in the church. The Spanish and English ministry has seen a little growth through personal contacts and door hangers. On the English side, three new families have come as a result. One has been very faithful for several months. Another has attended off and on for almost two months. A third family began recently, and the mother and her children are excited to be involved. In one week we begin our Missions Conference. Please pray that many will take part in missions giving and in the overall faithfulness of our church to its purpose.

At Shepherd's Call Baptist Church the work in our rural area has been steady and stretching. Faithfulness and new visitors have been a challenge. Attendance was climbing, especially with one new family, but they have not attended for about a month. Conversation has suggested a growing disconnect between our doctrinal positions, since they come from a reformed background. Please pray for clarity, charity, and unity in the truth.

On October fourth we participated in Phelan Phun Days and had a strong outreach. We hoped to see a couple of new families as a result. They have not come yet. We are inviting to our kids' event in November and are praying for a good turnout and lasting fruit.

My study schedule has been full as I prepare to teach in both churches. I am working through material on genetic information and the diversity of species, on Israel and the surrounding issues, and on systematic logic, along with regular Sunday messages. Please pray for clarity of truth and for clear communication that helps hearts and minds. Also pray for the results of our combined Missions Conference this month.

Thank you for praying, giving, and encouraging. Your faithfulness helps us keep going in the heat and in the harvest. We are grateful for you.

Together for Jesus,

Stephen, Charity, Judson (10), Samuel (9), Noah (8), and Valiana (6) Jenney