



Go WEST For GOD!

January/February 2011

Dear Prayer Partners,

"Therefore will the Lord wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will HE be exalted. . . blessed are all they that wait for him." Isaiah 30:18

One of the most difficult tasks we are called upon to do is to "wait"! But we are thankful that God is the One in control, and when He asks us to wait upon Him, we know that His way and time is perfect. He WILL be gracious unto us! These past two months have been a reminder of this truth.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIES

What a wonderful Christmas we celebrated together with our son and his family here in Colorado, along with a dear Brazilian college student, Linelma, who came for the holidays! It was truly a delight to introduce her to Colorado, the ministry of church planting here in the West, and to our family. She helped us in Sunday School by teaching and sang in our services, as well as anything else we asked her to do. She was a bit disappointed that we did not have a white Christmas like her Dad had who was visiting in Atlanta during that time! It started snowing the morning she left! But we did take her up in the mountains so she got to see it along with the wildlife there.

PRAISE

One of our new neighbors finally came to a service. We invited her to our home for dinner along with another couple from church, and she seemed to enjoy it. She is almost 80, so has been having some health issues. But she professes to know the Lord, so we have continued to try and have a personal relationship with her as a neighbor. She has been SO appreciative of Jeff & Becky (our son and pastor & wife) who came and shoveled her driveway during our largest snowstorm.

We also praise the Lord for further contact with the other neighbor who recently moved into our neighborhood. They have told us repeatedly, when we have invited them to church, or begin to talk about spiritual things, that they "are not church people!" But on Valentine's Day, Sue held a

Valentine's Party for all the children at church, and the daughter of our neighbor, Trinity, came to the party. Trinity's parents brought her and stayed for about a half hour or so and talked with a couple other couples who came with their children. The gospel was presented during that time, but they were not very interested. We just praise the Lord for continued open doors with them, and trust that one day they WILL be interested to know Christ!

Two weeks ago, we had our first baptismal service since we came here. A father and son were both baptized. We used the baptistery of another church several miles away, but our people drove there to witness this special occasion.

We recently participated with 3 other small churches in a Prophecy Conference. Mike was asked to preach one night on the "Marriage Supper of the Lamb". Sue was involved in the music each night, as well. Praise the Lord for each opportunity He gives us.

PERSONAL ACTIVITY

★ We attended the annual Pastors & Wives retreat in January and made additional new contacts. We also came away with an increased burden to see more church planters. Some pastors in the Western part of the state are having to pastor two churches at the same time due to the lack of workers.

- ★ Mike has been involved with several Pastor's prayer meetings in the area, luncheons with pastors, as well as our regional FBF meeting. All of these are great opportunities to meet more pastors and present Worldwide as well as obtain contacts for future meetings. Praise the Lord for these contacts.
- ★ Many have asked about Sue's back & leg pain. **Thank you for your prayers.** After several Dr. visits and x-rays, we have found that the back pain was probably caused by osteo-arthritis in the knees. We have been taking several steps to try to alleviate the pain, and praise the Lord, there IS improvement! These past couple of months have really slowed us down, but the Lord has been faithfully giving grace each day.
- ★ Sue has been able to continue teaching piano lessons. We are currently planning another seminar for the Denver area churches for church pianists. Please pray for the Lord's leading in this.
- ★ We are currently seeking the Lord's leading in the next few months, as we feel that we need to seek deputation meetings to raise support, but we are not sure the church here is ready for us to be gone for extended periods of time. We had thought by this summer

we could begin traveling almost full-time, but we are not sure the timing is right. Please pray with us. We know that sometimes it is easy to "make our plans" and the Lord says, "It isn't time yet." We want to follow HIS leading.

PRAYER ASKED

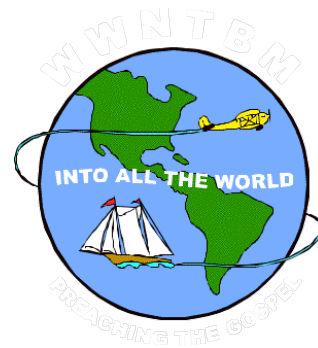
- ★ Spiritual and physical growth and encouragement at Northrange Baptist Church
- ★ Health concerns
- ★ Replacement couple for us at Northrange so that we can do more deputation
- ★ Wisdom in future seminars for "Preparing Church Pianist" Seminars
- ★ Further ministry with our new neighbors - open doors
- ★ Wisdom for future deputation
- ★ Open doors with a gal named Sheryl who requested counseling, then changed her mind

Thank you again for your desire to have a part in the ministry of Church Planting in the Western Mountain States. May the Lord bless you for your faithful prayers and support.

In His service,

Mike & Sue Smith

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"Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labor. For we are laborers together with God..." I Corinthians 3:8,9