



Go WEST For GOD!

July-September 2011

Dear Prayer Partners,

"And I sought for a man (or woman) among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it, but I found none." Ezekiel 22:30

As we have traveled in various western states and met faithful church planters, pastors, and missionaries, God has impressed upon us this desperate need to "stand in the gap" for the Lord and His Word. Many works in the West may never see a large church built, but God IS still saving souls and using His choice servants to accomplish His will. These dear folk are "making up the hedge" around His work. We realize that we, too, are called to "stand in the gap" where He has placed us, looking for more servants to see the need of planting churches in the Mountain West.

PREPARATION

Shortly after returning from our deputation trip last June and July, we were informed that one of the churches we were in had voted to take us on for support. Praise the Lord for His faithfulness!

PRESENTATION

We now have a website for our ministry! We are so grateful to a dear friend and former student for helping get this aspect of our ministry launched. It is still in the beginning stages, so there's not a lot to see, but little by little there is improvement. The website address is: www.GoWestForGod.org

We also are almost finished with a new brochure, which tells about the ministry Sue has developed for church pianists. These things have all taken lots of time developing, but we are praying the Lord will use these tools to acquaint others with our ministry and the needs in churches in the West.

Mike has also sent several copies of our new DVD presentation to churches whom have expressed interest in the work here in the West.

PROGRESS

In late August and early September, we took a trip further west, visiting several churches in Utah and over into California to visit our son, Mike, and family. He is a missionary builder, getting ready to build a new building for a church plant in Apple Valley, CA. While we took a week of rest and relaxation, we also were delighted to make new contacts there in Apple Valley, as well as in California City. The Lord may allow us to have some

meetings there next Spring, as well as in the churches we visited in Utah. One pastor has invited us for a missions conference in the Spring, so we'll be setting up yet another trip. It has been exciting to see the Lord leading us in places where He has made the contacts!

PRIVILEGE

During our trip to California, the Lord allowed us to receive a tremendous blessing! We were in the vicinity of the location of the first church Mike pastored in 1972. For many years, we have wondered what ever happened to that church after we were able to sell that property to a Spanish ministry. There had been many difficulties and heartaches during our years there, and we often viewed that time as a "failure". In September, we decided to drive by to see if the church was still there. Not only was it there, and still the same Spanish church, but we were privileged to meet the current pastor and wife. They are fundamental, Bible-believing Baptists, who are standing firm reaching the Hispanic community surrounding that church. It was an awesome privilege to see that God HAD used us - just in a different way than we had expected. For He had allowed us to be instrumental in transferring that church to a Spanish work that has been reaching the lost for these almost 30 years! What a thrill to know God used us to "stand in the gap" in that community!

PRAISES AND PRAYER

★ Northrange Baptist Church

It was a thrill recently to have a commissioning for our first missionary. They left for Costa Rica for language training, as they anticipate settling later in Peru. It was hard to see another family leave our small church, but what a wonderful blessing it was to have our first missionary go out from our own church! Praise the Lord!

We have seen some new faces recently at NBC. Since Pastor Jeff and Becky moved to this area 4 years ago, they have been "building bridges" with neighbors. This past summer, the Lord has begun to show them some fruit of their labors by allowing many children to be attracted to their home and family. A new family in the community has begun attending the church, and we are excited to see the Lord working in their lives. Sue has begun teaching piano to another family, and one of those children has been coming to church, too. The mother even listened to the plan of salvation one day after her daughter had begun to attend. We are praying for the Lord to continue to direct us to new families.

Thank you again for your 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,

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★ Deputation

Please pray for further contacts and guidance as we travel to the Carolinas for two missions recruiting conferences in October/ November, and as we plan the trip to Utah/California in the Spring.

We are also attempting to set up a survey team from the colleges we visit to come to Phoenix next summer. Pray that God will give us the contacts needed.

★ Health

Many have asked concerning Mike's health after a rather scary trip to the emergency room a couple of months ago. Basically, it was determined that he needs to monitor his blood pressure more closely. He has been doing fine ever since; we both have just had complete physicals, and all looks well. Praise the Lord!

★ Prospects

We are excited to report that we have our first two couples who are seriously praying about coming to Colorado or the Western states to help in church planting. They both have their homes up for sale and are praying about where God wants them to minister. Pray for these two couples, and for wisdom to know how to help them.



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KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA

"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