

March/April 2013

Dear Prayer Partners,

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God... But let him ask in **faith**, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed." -- James 1:5,6
"For we walk by **faith**, not by sight." -- II Corinthians 5:7

It is truly a marvel to experience God's voice and precious leading through His Own precious Word! How often we live the verse in II Corinthians as "For we walk by sight and not by faith", instead of the way it is written. The precious Holy Spirit drove the truth of this verse deep in our hearts this past week as we were searching for God's leading. God is so good and patient in leading thru His Word.

#### Service Functions

The month of March afforded many opportunities to serve in a number of different churches. Mike preached and gave a deputation presentation in a Colorado church the first weekend, and again two weeks later filled the pulpit for the same pastor who had surgery. Sue helped in music, as well. Mike also preached in a church in Price, Utah, and they asked us to come back in April to candidate for the pastorate. In our last prayer letter, we mentioned the need there in Price for a pastor. We are praying that the Lord will provide the pastor they need very soon.

Sue was privileged to speak at a Ladies' Retreat for area churches in Hayden, Colorado. The theme was "His Eye Is On The Sparrow", and it was truly a delight to speak three times during the weekend of the retreat! What a special blessing it was to see how God taught us many things as we prepared for this special event.

The weeks that we haven't had preaching engagements, we have been helping out in a church in Denver which has not had a pianist or song leader for over 2 years. It is truly a blessing to be used of the Lord in these ways while waiting on His leading.

### Shift in Field

It has been an overwhelming encouragement to us this past month especially, to hear from so many dear friends and family, assuring us of their prayer for us to know God's perfect will for our next area of service. We want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your love, concern and faithful prayer support. It is truly a blessing to have the knowledge that God's people are praying!

After preaching and candidating for the pastorate in the church in Price, Utah, our hearts were truly burdened for the need for a pastor for the dear people of that area. We met with other pastors in other Utah towns to better understand the needs. However, we had no definite leading of the Lord that WE should take the church. Even after the people voted, and formally called us, we did not have peace that we were the ones to fill that position. Our hearts were heavy, but in begging the Lord for direction, we could not get confirmation from the Lord.

At the same time, our hearts began to be more burdened for a work in the Verde Valley area of Arizona, where we had visited last Fall. But at that time, there were too many "obstacles" to pursue that work. The Lord opened the door for us to make another visit to Arizona the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in May to talk with area pastors about the church plant there in Rimrock. A church planter went to begin a church in Sedona, Arizona, a couple of years ago. He and another pastor began to be burdened for the area around Rimrock, (30 miles and across I-17 from Sedona) and after much prayer found a

building and began services about a year and half ago. The church planter has been pastoring both the Sedona church as well as the Rimrock work for well over a year, and really needs someone to take over the work. We were told about the need there when one of Mike's long-time friends from high school years retired in the area almost a year ago, and began helping in the church. After MUCH prayer and seeking God's leading, the Lord showed us this past week that He indeed was calling us to pastor the church there in Rimrock, Arizona.

We have seen God do some amazing things already in giving confirmation that He is leading in this ministry. While there are still "obstacles", humanly speaking, God has assured us through His Word, that we must "walk by faith, and not by sight". Plans are to move by August 1<sup>st</sup>, as we will return from our current trip at the end of June. Once again, we thank you, our dear friends and family of supporters, for your prayers, and would ask that you continue to pray that God will open each door as we move that direction.

# Schedule Filling

- June 1,2 Hymnplaying Seminar/ preaching - Frederick, MD;
- 🖈 June 9 Grace Baptist, Oxford, PA
- 🖈 June 16 Church in Florida
- ★ June 17-21 WWNTBM Family Week
- 🧩 June 22 Wedding NC
- ★ June 23 Supporting churches in NC

## Support Funds

God has continued to supply every need these past two months, using special gifts from dear servants, along with those who faithfully send financial support. Praise the Lord for His faithful co-laborers in the ministry!

raise the Lord for a new church who has joined with us to support the ministry of church planting in the West.

We would like to give opportunity for any church or individual to send temporary/short term support during these transitional months and/or to assist in moving expenses. If the Lord would have you join in this ministry, please send all financial gifts to: WWNTBM, P.O. BOX 725, KINGS MT, NC 28086

# **Supplication Focus**

Please pray for four couples in the East who have graduated from Bible college and are eager to join us in helping to plant churches in the West. Each of them have expressed a desire to come and help very soon. Pray that the Lord will direct them clearly, and work out details to help them in relocating.

ray for continued safety in travel, God's hand on our car, and blessing in meetings throughout June.

Pray for more interest in helping these church plants in the western churches who are struggling and need assistance.

ray for our need for housing, moving expenses, and help in the work in Rimrock, Arizona.

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