

March/April 2015

Dear Prayer Partners,

"Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore." Psalm 16:11

Sometimes in the ministry, when we continue serving as we know we should, but we don't see a lot of results, it is a wonderful blessing to be reminded that God is the One Who shows us the "path of life" and regardless of the circumstances or "results", there is "fullness of joy" in His presence, and "pleasures at His right hand".

Joy in Ministry

We recently changed our "Wednesday night" Bible Study and prayer meeting to Tuesday night, since one new young couple, Daina and Tiago, expressed interest in studying God's Word. Tiago works Wednesday through Sunday evenings. They have attended every week since we changed. We have been going step by step through our Statement of Faith and the doctrines that are included. What a blessing it has been to watch this dear young couple grow! After having been in several different cults, including New Age and Buddhism, they have taught us much, too, concerning the delights of our salvation compared to these cults in darkness. Pray that the Lord might give them a desire to help in the church ministry here in Rimrock!

Daina also attends the Ladies' Bible Study that Sue teaches on Thursday mornings. We may not see any "earth shattering" events, but it IS exciting to see the way God is changing the few folks we have! Rachel has been learning much about how to exhibit the fruit of the Spirit in her life, and unsaved family members have remarked about the change in her life! This is so exciting to see the Lord changing this young mother of 4 in her speech, conduct, and even her demeanor! We are truly witnessing miracles in the lives of these folk.

Joy in Disappointments

In our last prayer letter, we asked prayer for Ron and Diana, a couple who came to help us last Spring. They were an incredible help to us, and we soon learned to love them dearly. Ron developed a serious health problem, and after much prayer, searching for medical answers, and several procedures, they decided to move back to North Carolina where their children live, and they had confidence in former medical care. So they left Rimrock at the end of April. We miss them dearly, and since Sondergaards also left to assist the Native American church nearby in January, we are in desperate need once again for a young couple or family to come assist in the work here. Please pray with us that the Lord will show us just what to do in the coming months. There is a small duplex that might be available for someone to live if they were able to come even for a few months trial! Please contact us if you know of someone who might be willing to help us here in Rimrock, Arizona.

While it was hard to see Ron and Diana leave, we have joy knowing the Lord is in full control of the work here!

Joy in Serving Others

It has truly been a joy to continue our monthly nursing home ministry! Several of the patients who come have expressed what a blessing it is to have good music, and good preaching! We are the only church who is ministering at this time to these folk besides the Catholic priest. Praise the Lord for this opportunity!

It was a special treat for Sue to be asked to play for a couple of events recently, including a patriotic program for a Christian school in a neighboring community. She also played for the Ladies' Retreat held at the Bill Rice Ranch West Branch, in Flagstaff. We took 3 ladies from our church also.

Every 5th Sunday night we enjoy participating in a church-area-wide Sing! In March, we had more in attendance than ever before and truly enjoyed the fellowship of at least 3 other churches! We will have another church sing next Sunday night in Cottonwood! Sue usually plays for these, and Mike often preaches along with other pastors.

Joy in Physical Healing

Mike underwent a serious stress test at the end of March, which included taking pictures of the heart before and after the test. His cardiologist stated that after 9 months since his heart attack, he is doing amazingly well and shows that although there is permanent damage in a small area of his heart, he has made a full recovery! He will not need to see the Dr. until September! What an incredible miracle this is! Thank you for praying for us regarding his health. Please continue to pray for Sue, also.

Joy in Praise and Prayer

Praise for Mike's return to normal health and activity.

Pray for us as we reconstruct our e-mail address book. We recently lost our entire address book including prayer letter lists. If you can help, please send names and e-mail addresses of anyone you may know who has been getting our prayer letters! Also, if you receive more than one copy, please let us know that as well. Thank you!

Pray for continued guidance and opportunities to work with those folk God puts in our path!

Pray for travel during the coming summer months. We are hoping to attend Family Week with our Mission in mid-June

Pray for a young family to come help us here in Rimrock, AZ.

Thank you for your faithful prayers for the ministry where God has put us here in the West. We are so blessed to have so many wonderful friends and faithful "co-workers" in the ministry.

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