



June/July 2016

Dear Prayer Partners,

“Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!” -- Psalm 107:8, 15, 21, 31

Our hearts are full of praise for the goodness of the Lord, and for the wonderful works He has done these past two and half months since we left Arizona on an extended deputation and ministry trip. Many have told us they were praying for us and we thank you for your prayers! God has answered abundantly!

Travels

We left Rimrock, Arizona, on May 11th, and returned July 15th, traveling over 8,000 miles through 23 states, spoke in 14 churches, were involved in 2 week-long missions conferences and held one hymn-playing seminar. Of those 14 churches, 4 of them were supporting churches where we reported about the work where God has placed us. The other churches were churches where we had the opportunity to share our burden for the need for churches in the West. Many people expressed a desire to pray for us and our ministry, and several of these churches indicated they will be praying about partnering with us through financial support.

The “hospitality of the saints” on this trip was such a huge blessing to us. We were privileged to stay in prophet’s chambers, many which were extremely lovely and truly comfortable, homes of God’s people who shared God’s provisions, some treated us to a motel room, and one sweet couple opened their Bed and Breakfast resort to us! What a luxurious treat!

Highlights

+ Spoke at church in Albuquerque, NM who helped us during the weeks following Mike’s heart attack two years ago.

+ Visited family in Colorado to attend the graduation celebration of our grandson!

+ Reported in supporting church in Springfield, CO

+ Presented our work at two churches in Houston, TX. While there, we were privileged to stay with our former pastor, mentor, and man who married us. It was special to visit his wife in a nursing home while there, as just a few weeks following, she went home to be with the Lord! God is SO good to have allowed this visit!

+ While traveling to Florida for a week-long missions conference, we were able to spend one night in Alabama with Sue’s brother and see some of his family, and then the following night was spent with Sue’s sister in Florida.

+ Participated in and presented our ministry in Ocala, FL! At least one was saved that week and many others made decisions for Christ! What a special week of blessings we received there!

+ Spoke in supporting churches in Shelby, NC area and visited friends, 2 grandsons in the area, and attended wedding of a former piano student!

+ Presented ministry in Asheville, NC at Temple Baptist Church with longtime friend, Pastor Randy Bray! It is such a joy to see how God has blessed the lives of others along the way!

+ Visited our son, Ed and family, in Ohio for 4 days between meetings! God is good to allow us to see our children and grandchildren.

+ Presented our ministry in Woodstock, VA and again visited old friends

+ FAMILY WEEK with WWNTBM missionaries! We were especially privileged to present our ministry with the dear folk at the host church in Edinburgh, VA.

+ Presented our ministry in a new church plant in Harrisonburg, VA with Pastor Cline.

+ Visited our daughter and family in Frederic, MD. What an added blessing to visit the historic site of Antietam Battlefield for the 4th of July celebration, along with their church and also our great-granddaughter and family! We praise the Lord for these extra blessings along the way.

+ Reported to our supporting church in Oxford, PA, and visited with former student and family there.

+ Presented ministry in Cheektowaga, NY, and visited with more longtime friends!

+ Conducted Hymnplaying Workshop at church in North Tonawanda, NY. We had 10 pianists who attended, and it was truly a blessing to teach these talented and special people. We also were privileged to present our ministry on Sunday in this same church. This is the church where Stephen and Charity Jenney are members. They were not there, as they were in Michigan on deputation for the month, but we are excited that this godly couple are planning to help us in Arizona as soon as the Lord gives them the needed support. Please continue to pray for the Jenneys!

Praises

- Safety in traveling 8,000 miles
- No car problems; Praise the Lord for providing the "new" car!
- Provision through God's people
- Fellowship with God's people
- More prayer partners
- Many piano CD's distributed
- Good health throughout the trip
- Met with computer tech who helped with Sue's piano arrangement questions

Additional Family Blessings

We are especially thankful this summer to have many of our immediate family who were used

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of the Lord through mission trips, camp ministries, etc. In adding them up in my mind, we realized that of our children and grandchildren, the following served the Lord this summer in these ways:

- 10 went on missions trips (several in foreign countries)
- 1 grandson serving in pastoral internship
- 11 serving in camp ministries

How thankful we are for each one who wants to serve the Lord! "There is no greater joy than to hear my children (and grandchildren) walk in truth."

Prayer Requests

- Churches as they decide on future support for us.
- Re-establishing our church here in Rimrock now that we are back. Many of our people have moved out of the area, so we are nearly starting over.
- Three new couples we met in our travels that are praying about coming West!

We thank each of you who partner with us through your prayers and support as we continue to serve the Lord here in the Mountain West.

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