



March/April 2020

Dear Prayer Partners,

“...We might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: Which hope we have as an anchor for our soul, both sure and steadfast, ...” Hebrews 6:18,19

While these last couple of months have truly been turbulent, stressful and difficult, it has brought us to our knees more than once seeking direction, peace and comfort. God's Word is the only TRUTH we can trust! And the Lord has reassured us over and over of His protection, His grace, and faithfulness! HE is our HOPE! HE is our ANCHOR! And He has promised to never leave us nor forsake us. (Hebrews 13:5b)

PANDEMIC

What a blessing it was during the month of March to be able to attend our grandson's wedding and see three of our own children and grandchildren held up in NC at the Wilds Christian Camp. Since Jeremy, our grandson works at the Wilds, he was able to have the reception there and the camp graciously hosted our family! What a joy it was to spend a little time with each of our family who attended. It was during that week that we learned of schools shutting down, and the covid-19 pandemic was launched! But God was STILL in control, and truly our hope was in Him during that time. Many questions for each family were raised. Could our daughter and family return to Chile? Could our granddaughter, Becky, return to China where she taught school and lived? Would we even be able to return to Arizona? But while there were many concerns, we all knew our HOPE was in the Lord and HE was in control. Praise the Lord, each one was able to return to their homes. Melody and Jim were some of the last ones to get back into Chile, as they closed their borders at midnight of the evening they returned! Since all of our children are involved in ministry, the closing of churches was another concern. But God again was our ANCHOR, sure and steadfast! Our youngest son, Ed, is a nurse. It was truly exciting to see how God orchestrated his job situation leading him to a

different hospital just days before this pandemic hit! So when the news came that he would be laid off for 8 weeks, his new position in another hospital was up and running! God was His HOPE also!

PARTNERSHIP

What a delight it was even in the midst of concerns and unknown future to be able to speak in two of our supporting churches while we were in NC and share an update of our ministry in Arizona! It has been several years since we were back there, so we were blessed to see many dear friends as well as get acquainted with new ones and to see how God is working and truly He is the HOPE and ANCHOR of each of these dear folk! How thankful we are for these dear folk who sacrificially pray and give toward our ministry here in Arizona! Praise the Lord for His Grace as we were able to share this HOPE God has given us as well!

PROBLEMS

Here in Arizona, the restrictions given by the government, even though we were under "stay-at-home orders" up until a few days ago, were more lenient than most states. Church services were never completely banned, but guidelines were given and canceling services was a strong suggestion. Due to our concern for our testimony in the community, we felt it

necessary to shut down our services, especially since we met in a rented facility on Sundays. After the first couple of weeks of just "visiting" other services on line, it became a growing concern that we develop a means of worship and fellowship for our own people. For many churches, on-line services were set up with the help of folks in their churches who understood the technology involved. But we had little help here! But the Lord was our HOPE, and He directed us to two of our sons (son-in-law) who offered to walk us through the steps to help us. Mike spent most of three days learning the "ins and outs" of the Zoom program, and we were able to instruct our people (most had access to internet) so they were able to join us for church services, including Easter Sunday. After several weeks, we were able to resume our services meeting together, following strict precautions. What a joy it has been to see God working and we recently have even had a few visitors! God has been our ANCHOR through it all!

PROTECTION

Praise the Lord for His grace in protecting us from the coronavirus and any other illness during these months. We have been praying much for various missionaries around the world who have suffered difficulties due to this pandemic. But we rejoice the God has been their HOPE and ANCHOR as well as they have dealt with many trials!

PROVISION

How thankful we are for God's daily provision! Sue's piano lessons took a hit during this time, and several opted to try "on-line" lessons. So during April, most piano lessons were given over the internet. While this was difficult, we thank the Lord for this bit of income. We are extremely thankful for our supporting churches who continued to be faithful as God provided. Our HOPE is in the Lord, and HE is faithful!!

PRAYER & PRAISE

- + Praise the Lord for answers to prayer during these trying times.

- + Praise the Lord for opportunities in counseling
- + Praise the Lord that son Mike was able to work during this time at the Bill Rice Ranch-Westbranch building necessary facilities
- + Praise the Lord for allowing upcoming wedding for our granddaughter (Mike and Stephanie's daughter) May 30!
- + Pray for strength and safety in traveling to this wedding in Wyoming.
- + Pray for guidance in returning to regular church services and activities
- + Pray for outreach in our community.
- + Pray for continued support and financial needs.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and love for the Lord and His servants. We have been praying for you folks as well during this trying time in our country and will continue to rest on His promises as He is our ANCHOR and our HOPE! We praise the Lord for each of you, and ask His blessing upon you.



In His service,

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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