



July-Aug 2022

Dear Prayer Partners,

“And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: ... And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you. Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.” II Cor.9:8,14,15

After just celebrating 55 years of marriage on September 1, and most of those years serving the Lord in ministry, we are truly grateful for this “unspeakable gift” of grace, and for you who are faithful in praying for us and the “good work” God has allowed us to accomplish for His glory! We are so thankful that God is allowing us to remain in ministry and guiding us through His grace to serve Him wherever He leads. We know it is largely due to the effective prayers of God’s people who continue to lift us up to the Throne of Grace that we are still serving.

RECAP OF BLESSINGS

At the end of June and in early July, God enabled us to head to Colorado to attend our grandson’s wedding. What a joy to see God honored in Joel and Savannah’s wedding and to know they are now serving the Lord teaching in Christian education. We know this is an extension of the “good work” God has allowed us to be part of in our family! Praise HIM!

Because we were in Colorado, we were truly blessed to visit and update our supporting church in Springfield, and meet the new pastor and family there. What a blessing they all were to us and it was a wonderful weekend to renew friendships as well as make new contacts! The church was very special to us and God blessed in this “good work”.

After returning to Arizona, we found that we were busier than ever, since Paul Sondergaard (assistant in church) and family were gone to California for a couple of weeks helping Paul’s parents. Mike continued teaching Sunday School, and preached many times in July and August. Also, he’s been preaching in other area churches while their pastor was gone, both

Wednesday nights and Sundays. Praise the Lord for this “good work”! Sue and Natalie (from Rimrock church) have been able to help in Children’s church and Sunday School on several occasions, too.

REMODELING PROJECT

Since we began assisting the work at Living Waters Baptist Church, we have seen a definite increase in attendance! Because of this, we have begun the process of remodeling the auditorium to enable more people to attend. It has been exciting to see new folks coming, and some are returning each service, making this their church home! Praise the Lord! Our son, Mike, is meeting with an architect next week to discuss details of this expansion. At the same time, we discovered the modular building (former auditorium) at the rear of the church, has black mold and must be torn down. Mike may also be involved in this process as well. Please pray for wisdom and finances as progress is made in both of these “good work” endeavors!

REJOICING WITH FAMILY

We were blessed in August with a new great-granddaughter! How thankful we are for this special blessing in our family! We also received word that

another granddaughter will be having our 4th great grandchild in February! We truly praise the Lord that each of these little ones are in godly homes where they can hear of the love of Christ!

In August, we were thrilled to be asked to participate in advisory capacity in the launching of a new Christian Trade School. Yes, our son, Mike has had a burden to teach other young people the trades of using the gifts God has given for His service, especially in the area of various trades for many years. And we believe that God is leading him now to begin this endeavor! Many prayers are needed for this "good work", and we would like to ask our prayer supporters to be a part of this project as well.

RELIANCE ON PRAYER

- + Please pray for our upcoming trip back East. We have not made a deputation trip for several years, due to health issues and other difficulties. But God has opened the doors for this trip. Initially, it was a planned trip to see our newest great-granddaughter and family. But now, we will also be able to visit two supporting churches where we have not been for several years. Also, we've been asked to be part of a missions conference in Bedford, VA in mid-October. This will extend our trip to be about 4 weeks. God has been working out details for this trip and it has been very obvious that He has orchestrated this "good work". Please pray with us for wisdom, preparation, safety, and financial provision throughout this trip, and that we may be a blessing to others.

- + Many have asked about our grandson, Jack, who spent many months in the hospital due to complications after surgery to address problems with Crohn's disease. After having sepsis twice as well as other infections and complications, he has been doing remarkably well for several weeks. In fact, last week, after missing two

semesters, he returned to law school classes! He will still need the "reconnect" surgery in December, but praise the Lord for this remarkable progress. Thank you for your continued prayers for endurance and grace.

- + Pray for continued guidance in ministry
- + Pray for continued good health so we may serve Him better.
- + Pray for wisdom in the building needs of the church

Thank you again for your faithfulness in remembering us in prayer, financial gifts and for your encouragement in the **WORK** of the ministry here in 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