

March - May 2025

Dear Prayer Partners,

"I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." Hebrews 13:5

What an amazing promise God has given us! In times of joy and celebration, He is **with us!** In times of sorrow or grief, Jesus is **with us!** In times of pain, difficulty, and anxiety, God's love never changes and He is always **with us!** How we praise Him for this truth!

CHALLENGES

We must apologize for the lateness of this prayer letter. Time just seems to fly by and we get so busy. We have been dealing with computer issues both personal and for the church. Of course, having computer problems slows down our ministry obligations too. We are finally seeing some progress and the Lord has been faithful in directing us to those qualified to help in these areas.

We have also both experienced health difficulties the last several months. Mike spent 3 days in the hospital for a fungal infection caused be a prescribed allergy medication preventing him from swallowing. Although it was a scary couple of days, we are so thankful it was diagnosed quickly and correctly and his recovery was complete. Sue continues treatments and surgical procedures for chronic back pain and arthritis. It is often frustrating to experience limitations in service as "we used to do." But God is faithful in revealing His love and promises even in these challenges.

CONFERENCE

We experienced a very special blessing when the Lord provided for us to attend the first Family Week of World Wide New Testament Missions that we've been able to attend in 5 years. In April, we flew to NC and were also able to see a number of grandchildren, and even a great- grandson we hadn't seen before. Our daughter, Joy, was also able to join us during this time! The conference with the mission family was so uplifting as we reflected on God's holiness. The fellowship with other missionaries and servants of the Lord was so very refreshing and it was just what we needed to revive us for the work here in Arizona! It was so obvious that the Lord was WITH US every step of the way!

<u>CELEBRATION</u>

What a tremendous blessing it was to return from Family Week for our Resurrection celebration! Not only did we have a children's program with another couple in the church assisting in a drama from John 19, but the children also sang and played bells for the program. Then for the first time in all the years of the Living Waters Baptist Church, God enabled us to organize a choir with about 10

participants singing praises to the Lord for His grace and resurrection! What a thrill to see what God has done and how He has been WITH US through the years!

CONTRIBUTIONS

We are so thankful for God's people, for their faithful prayers for us and our ministry, and for those who have given sacrificially and generously! As we have planned, participated, and progressed through various ministries these past few months, it has been obvious the God has been leading and continues to keep His promises. He is ALWAYS WITH US!

- + The remodel to include a nursery in the church has been completed, through major help from a special couple in our church
- + Mike continues teaching in the book of Acts for Adult Sunday School
- + Sue teaches Children's Church using new curriculum on Missions from WWNTBM and assists in Ladies Bible Studies
- + We were still able to have Sue's Spring Piano Recital after Mike had been in the hospital the previous week
- + Continuing to have men's prayer breakfasts each month and ladies Mother's Day banquet
- + ALL PRAISE TO GOD FOR HIS STRENGTH AND FAITHFULNESS!

CO-LABORERS

Thank you for those who pray and give to the work here in the Verde Valley of Arizona!

Please pray for these specific requests.

- + New converts
- + Our first Vacation Bible School since COVID June 30-July 3.
- + Children's Bible Club on Reservation
- + New families seeking to help in the church

- + Wisdom for future expansion of church building
- + Wisdom in planning baptismal service for several who are interested -- we need a baptistry
- + Financial support

Thank you for your faithful prayers and love as we serve Christ here in Arizona! We appreciate your partnering with us in reaching the people here in the Verde Valley of 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 ..."

| Corinthians