

Dear Prayer Partners,

June-July 2025

“Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the creator of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? There is no searching of His understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.” Isaiah 40: 28, 29

We were blessed to see the truth of these verses in our lives and ministry during these past two months. God is great, understanding, powerful, and increases strength when we most need it to accomplish the tasks He asks of us! What a wonderful God we serve!

TRAVEL

It was truly a privilege to have a quartet from Ambassador Baptist College visit our church! Enjoying a visit from a special long-time friend, then traveling to Colorado for our granddaughter's wedding were some of the exciting blessings God allowed us to experience in June.

TESTING

A few days after our return, Sue spent a day in the ER due to a serious fall in our front yard. After a number of x-rays and tests, it was determined there were no broken bones. Praise the Lord! But she continued to have additional pain for several weeks due to bruises and cracked ribs. This fall happened just 3 days before we were to begin our much anticipated Vacation Bible School. While it was difficult, God gave the extra strength and power to perform the work we were to do. How we thank the Lord for this VBS!

TEAMWORK

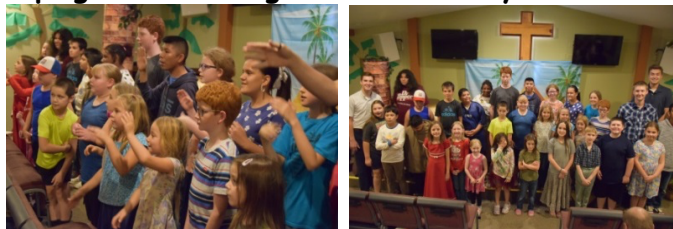
Since we have a small church, a family who had come previously for a week of meetings,

volunteered to help organize our VBS. With some extra help from our own congregation and the Visser family, we saw God work to prepare for this first VBS since 2020 at the church! Then an amazing thing happened. Just a few days before VBS, we received a call from a traveling summer quartet representing Baptist College of Ministry in Wisconsin. For some reason, they had a week free and they were traveling through Arizona. They asked if they could help our church in anyway that week. Yes! It was the week of our VBS. What a blessing these young men were to us! As a result, we were able to have more help than we ever anticipated and God blessed abundantly. Our theme for the week was the Bible account of the life of Joseph and how God used impossible situations to bring about victory for His glory!

TRIUMPH

We saw about 40 children attend, and several accept Christ as Savior during that week! Many of our own people really stepped up to assist in crafts, teaching, games and refreshments.

Sue taught music and Bible verses to all the classes. Mike assisted in many different areas helping each evening to run smoothly.



TREAT

The last night, following a program designed for the parents, we offered ice cream sundaes to the delight of the children!



What a delight it was to see God working, *"giving power to the faint" and "increasing strength to those who had no might"!*

TEACHING

Mike continues to teach adult Sunday School and is enjoying going through the book of Acts. He has had several opportunities this past month to preach other services both at our own church, but also another church. Sue continues teaching children's church and has been using a new "curriculum" and color book which emphasizes how children can become

involved in missions. She has also begun teaching piano lessons for the new school year, which keeps her quite busy with 15 students.

PRAYER REQUESTS

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 and follow-up from VBS
- + Wisdom for future expansion of church building
- + Wisdom in planning baptismal service for several who are interested -- we need a baptistry
- + Financial support - While the summer months have been somewhat challenging, we are so thankful for God's continued provision.

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 ..."
I Corinthians