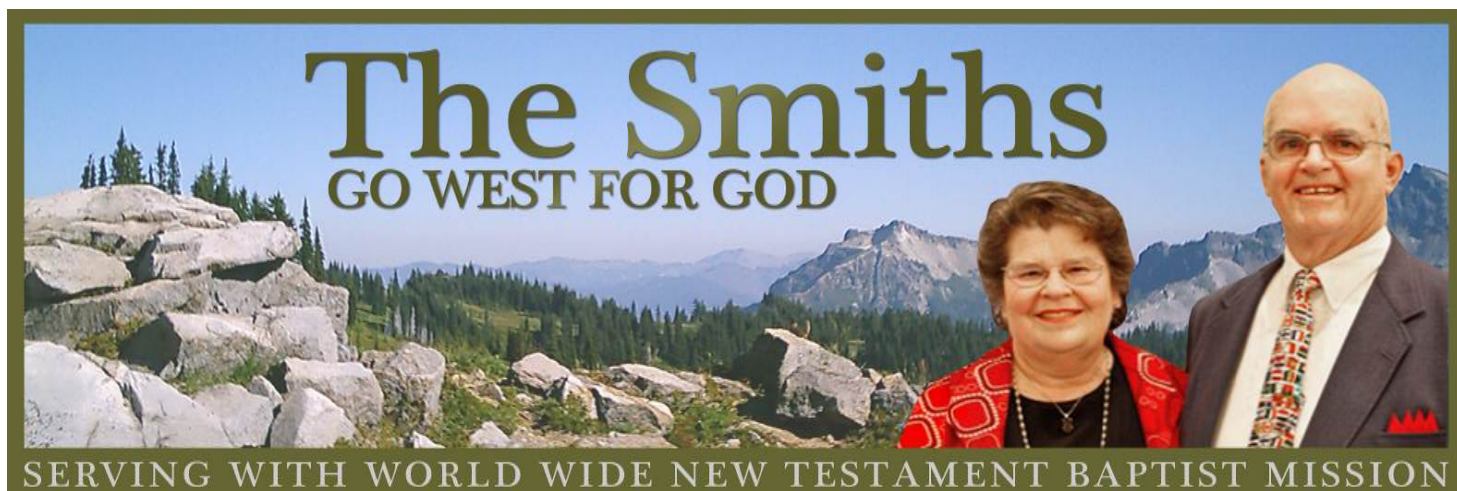




August - October 2025

Dear Prayer Partners,

***"By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually,
that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name." Hebrews 13:15***

Since this is the end of October, and we are approaching the holiday months, we are more mindful of PRAISE and THANKSGIVING. In reflection over the past couple of months, we have much for which to PRAISE the Lord and give THANKS! Since many of you pray regularly for us and the ministry of the church plant here in the Verde Valley, let us share some of these PRAISES of what God has done and is doing! Since you share in the burdens, we want you to share in these blessings and works that God is doing!

BLESSINGS

Perhaps one of the biggest **blessings** of these past few weeks and months is seeing God working in hearts of people we have prayed for and ministered to for several years! Among those is our neighbor, Becky. Over 10 years ago, we were able to minister to Becky's mother, Carol. Some of you prayed for her as she accepted Christ and discovered cancer, and went to be with the Lord about 5-6 years ago. We continued to try to reach her son, Dale, and daughter Becky, who both lived next door. Neither of them were very responsive, only grateful that we had been here when their mother needed help. Through serious health trauma concerning Dale, Becky has reached out for help, saying she needed to have a relationship with God.

After having a seminar at the church with Jeff Musgrave dealing with his program, "The Exchange," several months ago, we've been praying for opportunities to share this with others. When Becky came to us concerning her despair and devastating circumstances, we asked her if she'd like to have a Bible study to show her how to have a personal relationship with God. She eagerly

agreed, and after just two sessions, she prayed a prayer to know Christ and have the assurance of a home in Heaven! What a blessing it has been to not only lead her in this decision, but to see her growing each week. She has attended church regularly with us for the last 6 weeks, and is continuing the Bible studies. How we PRAISE the Lord for His working and are THANKFUL for answered prayer!

It is always a joy and **blessing** to have family and dear friends visit us in our home! Last month it was a special blessing to have dear friends, John and Lori Barendsen, from our former church in Michigan 20+ years ago, visit us! What a blessing to witness how God continues to work in their lives as they now live in Wisconsin and serve in a growing church there!

A week or so later, we were **blessed** again by a visit from our mission director, Jeremy & Esther Lockhart and family! What a joy it was to get acquainted with their whole family and see how God is using them in the lives of missionaries with World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions!

In just another week, we are looking forward to a short visit with our son, Ed and Heather from Ohio! God has **blessed** us richly with caring, loving children as well as close friends in the family of God! We truly give PRAISE and THANKSGIVING for these **blessings**!

BAPTISMS

We experienced a very special **blessing** when the Lord provided for us to have a baptismal service following our Sunday morning service a few weeks ago! What a joy it was to see 3 children, 2 pre-teens, 1 teen, and 1 adult lady follow the Lord in baptism after hearing how they had received Christ as their Savior.

BUSY-NESS

How THANKFUL we are to have opportunities to teach, preach, and minister at both Living Waters Baptist Church, as well as other churches as the Lord provides.

While Mike continues to teach Adult SS class weekly and preaching from time to time in sister churches, he assists in maintaining finances and many ongoing decisions needed in the church. He'll be preaching more during the coming holiday months, too, so would appreciate prayers for strength and health for these added responsibilities.

Sue continues teaching Children's Church on missions, now specifically studying the life of Paul, the first New Testament Missionary. She also continues to teach 14 piano students at home. And we both organize the church music program with special music, congregational songs, etc. Please pray for the upcoming music for Thanksgiving as well as Christmas services.

BUILDING

What a tremendous **blessing** it is to see the church growing with new visitors every week, and many return visitors as well. We've been experiencing about 50 nearly every Sunday morning, filling nearly every seat in the auditorium.

New folks are beginning to attend other services as well. While we PRAISE the Lord for this increase, we are very much in need of expanding our facilities. Please pray for a special business meeting scheduled soon to discuss the logistics of making our building more adequate for the potential growth. It has taken many years to see this type of growth in a church plant here in the Verde Valley of Arizona, so this makes it more challenging to know how to provide for this growth.

PRAYER

- + New families seeking to help in the church
- + Wisdom for future expansion of church building
- + Personal financial support
- + **ALL PRAISE TO GOD FOR HIS STRENGTH AND FAITHFULNESS!**

We appreciate your partnering with us in reaching the people here in the Verde Valley of Arizona!

In His service,

Mike & Sue Smith

Mike and Sue Smith
4557 E. Cliffside Trail
Rimrock, Arizona 86335

Mike Cell: 704-466-5594; Sue: 704-466-5595

Mike: rimrockparson@gmail.com

Sue: rrpianist@gmail.com

website: www.GoWestForGod.org

Sending church:
Living Waters Baptist Church
Camp Verde, Arizona



"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