

The Smith Soundings: August 2008

Dear prayer and financial partners,

It's hard to know where to start; we have had an incredibly busy month! Since we wrote you last, we completed our final week of camp ministry at Raccoon River Bible Camp in Scranton, IA. That was a blessing to us. I'm sure you've gathered from our letter last month that camp ministry is something we both enjoy. It lets us both participate in ministry in a different way. We are given opportunities to disciple and reach the lost like we don't necessarily receive while visiting churches. Overall, the week went really well, but we were sure ready for a rest when we got back home!

The next week was an exciting time for our whole family. We had a very busy week preparing for Elizabeth's youngest sister's wedding. She was married on August 2nd, and is now living with her husband in Bakersfield, CA. We praise the Lord for bringing them together and for their desire to honor God together.

We have been asking for the Lord's grace as we develop a new normal schedule for ourselves now that we are working full-time on missions. Andy usually spends his time calling pastors seeking meetings, planning our trips, and doing other missions-related tasks. We have been working together on developing our website. It's not finished yet, but we hope to be able to tell you next month that it's up and running for you to view! We also put together a video to update churches on how we are doing and how our summer went.

We are currently sitting at 53% of our needed financial support. On weekends we still present the ministry to churches. We have been blessed to be able to continue to meet new people and tell them about our ministry with CBM. We have another trip out East planned for mid-September through late November (just before Thanksgiving). So, we'll be gone for quite awhile this time. It is difficult to plan a trip of this magnitude, so please pray for Andy especially as he seeks the Lord's direction with planning our time. Pray specifically that the Lord would supply housing for us while we are out there. We will not take our trailer home with us because of gas prices, so we are asking the Lord to supply people to open their homes to us while we are out there. We will need housing in New York State especially.

This month is difficult for us in one way. August 28th will mark Collin's birthday, one year since he was born and one year since he went home to be with the Lord. Please pray for us as we remember our son and pray about what the Lord has for our future. We don't mention him a lot anymore, but he is still on our hearts, and we are thankful to those of you who still pray for us in that regard.

Please pray for our upcoming meetings:

August 24: Oak Grove Baptist Church, Kansas City, KS (visiting and short update)

August 31: Center Street Baptist Church, Marshalltown, IA (an update to our home church—morning service 10:30am)

September 7: Harmony Baptist Church, Galesburg, IL (presentation all day)

September 14: Germantown Hills Baptist Church, Metamora, IL (presentation all day)

September 17: Leave for East coast trip. (Specific schedule next month)

September 21: Mortons Corners Baptist Church, Springville, NY

Thank you for your continued prayers. We are so blessed by you!

Andy & Elizabeth Smith