



The Smith Soundings: January 2011

Reflections in the New Year

Often the coming of a new year is an opportunity for us to reflect on our lives: what we have accomplished, what we hope to accomplish, our relationship with God, etc. It is a good thing for us to pause and take inventory of our lives, seek God's direction, and thank Him for His work in our lives.

In this new year, God has given us more than just the new date to remind us to stop and reflect. God has recently taken us through a major life circumstance which has caused us to pause and seek Him and also to thank Him!

On Saturday, January 15th, Andy was on his way to the Grand Rapids area to work on a church project with another builder. It had snowed the night before, but the snow had stopped and the roads had been cleared for the most part. Andy got into our truck, but didn't engage the 4-wheel drive since the roads looked clear. He got about 10 minutes from home and hit some ice on the road. The truck swerved out of control and rolled into the median, which was a very steep ditch. Andy remembers being upside down and unable to move because he was pinned in place. God caused 4-5 cars to stop and the people helped Andy get out of the truck. There was a medically trained person there who had Andy lay down, at which time Andy went unconscious. The EMTs were called and Andy was taken to the emergency room.

We praise God that Andy was found to have no injuries! He escaped this awful accident with only minor cuts and sore muscles. God was certainly watching over Andy! We are giving God glory and thanks for Andy's life and wellness.

We have not heard for sure from the insurance company, but we can only assume that the truck will be totaled. Seeing pictures of the truck as it is now, it seems only obvious that the truck will be totaled. We are praying that our dealings with the insurance company would be quick and easy and that we would get a good monetary return on our truck. This would enable us to be able to get another truck that can be used for Andy's ministry work and to pull our trailer home.

Praise God for Andy's life! Praise God that Andy did not sustain any injuries that might hinder his ministry work. Praise God that the boys and I weren't also in the truck! Praise God that no other vehicles were involved in the accident! Please pray that God would help the process of replacing the truck to be efficient and for our benefit. It is hard to think that we will find another truck that fits our needs at a price we can afford, but we know God can bless again. We will wait for Him to provide for our need. If you are interested, you can see our website for pictures of the truck after the accident.

**MISSIONARY BUILDERS WITH
CONTINENTAL BAPTIST
MISSIONS**

**SENT BY CENTER STREET
BAPTIST CHURCH**

**TEMPORARY ADDRESS:
11650 NORTHLAND DR.
ROCKFORD, MI 49341**

**PERMANENT ADDRESS:
1403 S. THIRD AVE.
MARSHALLTOWN, IA 50158**

PHONE: 515.418.0933

**EMAIL:
ANDYLIZSMITH@YAHOO.COM**

**WEBSITE:
ANDYANDELIZABETHSMITH.COM**

Praise God with us:

- We have 94% of our support.
- God's protection over Andy!
- Many new opportunities for ministry at our church.

Please remember us in prayer:

- God's provision of the money for a new truck.
- Andy's continued safety during this building project in Grand Rapids.
- Judah and Asher's health and salvation.
- Our next project in Sauk City, Wisconsin.

Ministry News...

Andy is currently working at Alpine Baptist Church (ABC) in Grand Rapids. He is helping to spray insulation as part of their extensive building project. This project is part of an effort of ABC to increase their opportunities for discipleship and outreach. While their plans include many new classrooms, meeting rooms and a kitchen area, church member and building team participant John Den Boer says, "The gym is needed the most. Last year we had almost 250 kids at the close of our AWANA program, with 70 adults working. We will gain two AWANA circles...We also do special outreaches such as Upward Basketball and soccer camps which have been an amazing outreach to our community. We've always had to rent facilities to do this, but now we can do it in house...We hope to begin a ministry that will begin drawing adults to use our gym facility for activities used as spiritual outreach...The entire effort is focused on sharing the Word of God with our community." We both feel blessed and privileged to be able to help ABC reach these goals, and we pray God is glorified in the years to come through this church's efforts in their community!

I (Elizabeth) have also started to serve in the Wednesday night children's ministry at the church we are attending. I am helping with the youngest kids. The lady who usually serves in this position is currently undergoing cancer treatments, so a few of us are taking over her responsibilities temporarily. Please pray for Sandy as she strives to be strong for treatments and to be a good testimony of God's love and grace to her family around her!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT!