

Smith Soundings July 2009

Dear prayer partners,

Thank you for your continued prayers for us! We appreciate your prayers over our family as we continue on our pre-field ministry journey. Thank you for praying for Andy last week as he helped roof Liberty Baptist Church in Dike, IA. The project went well and they had wonderful roofing weather the 3 days that Andy was able to help.

We have been having good meetings in Iowa and the surrounding states so far this spring and summer. It's hard to believe that it's already half-way through July! We will be leaving next week for our four month trip for more meetings in Pennsylvania, New York. We will be taking our fifth-wheel trailer with us so that we can have a permanent home while we are away. We anticipate that this will help the trip go much smoother for us, as we are traveling with a 3-month-old baby this time! I'm sure Judah will appreciate having the familiarity of home each night as much as we will! Taking our trailer with us has the potential to be such a blessing but it could also be a headache dealing with pulling it through heavy traffic, or maneuvering it through tight spaces (or about a hundred more little or big things that could go wrong). Please pray that the Lord will prepare the way before us and allow for ease of travel as we pull the trailer with us! We leave next Wednesday, the 22nd, from Ankeny, IA for our trip. We are attending CBM's annual family conference on Monday and Tuesday (they always hold their conference on the campus of Faith Baptist Bible College in Ankeny).

PLEASE PRAY WITH US about our trailer. As you will remember from last month's update, we officially moved into our trailer at the beginning of June. After living in it for a month, we ran into some problems with primarily the front leg jacks. So, we moved out of our home and put it in the repair shop to get these things taken care of before we left. That was over two weeks ago, and the trailer is still in the repair shop! The shop is not working quite as fast as we hoped they would. PLEASE PRAY NOW that they would repair our trailer for us before we have to leave next Wednesday! We could always go pick up the trailer without these repairs being made, but as you can imagine, we hope that we can have a sound-working trailer with us while we are so far from "home" back in Iowa. You might wonder where we've been living the last 2 ½ weeks—with our parents! Thank you to Mom(s) and Dad(s) for that blessing!

God has been teaching us a lot through these life experiences. Perhaps you know what it's like to anticipate how something will go, and doing your absolute best to plan things so there will be no hang-ups or obstacles to your goals. But God seems to allow the unexpected curve ball to show up sometimes, and we don't know why. We seek to learn from these situations and know how to better prepare next time. It can be very stressful and frustrating, but these situations help us to truly place our trust in God's sovereignty and faithfulness. He knows our schedule and commitments, and He will help us get to where we need to be exactly when we're supposed to be there.

Please praise the Lord with us that He has allowed us to reach 74% of our needed financial support! We are so thankful, as always, for those of you who give to us either through your church or as individuals! Thank you for the sacrifices you make in order to help us realize the call that God has placed on our hearts to serve as builders in North America. God is already using us as his instruments to build righteousness into the lives of those we meet. We are so blessed to know God and share Him with others! How is God using you to build into the lives of others? I can tell you one way: you are such an encouragement to us as you pray for us and give financially! Thank you for building

encouragement and thankfulness into our lives and being such a blessing! What a privilege to be used by the Lord!

Please pray with us that we would reach our goal of 85% by the end of this year! God is able to supply the needed finances in order to reach that goal! God has already supplied us with our 5th-wheel living trailer, our tool trailer and our truck to pull them with! It's exciting to know that as soon as God provides our needed financial support, we can be on the field fulltime right away! If we were to have our financial support right now, we would probably go to the building project in Leesburg, FL. We deeply look forward to being used by God on the mission field as builders and servants at these churches!

We will leave you with a schedule of our upcoming meetings. We deeply value your prayers over our travels these coming months! We will be returning home in mid-November. Thank you for praying! We communicate with most of you through email, but if you should happen to need our mailing address for any reason, we will be receiving mail at this address from July 23rd through, at least, October 24th:

c/o Covington Baptist Church
2121 N. Williamson Rd.
P.O. Box 243
Covington, PA 16917

Our upcoming meetings:

July 26th: Skyline Baptist Church, Rome, NY
August 9th: Bethel Baptist Church, Hopewell Junction, NY
August 16th & 19th: West Clarksville Baptist Church, West Clarksville, NY
August 23rd & 25th: First Baptist Church, Holland, NY
August 30th: First Day Baptist Church, Richburg, NY
September 6th: Covington Baptist Church, Covington, PA
September 13th: First Baptist Church, Hallstead, PA
September 20th & 23rd: Central Baptist Church, Yorkshire, NY
September 27: Northmoreland Baptist Church, Centermoreland, PA
October 7th: North Chester Baptist Church, Chester, PA (update)
October 11th & 14th: Independent Baptist Church, Towanda, PA
October 18th: First Baptist Church, Hamburg, NY
October 25th & 28th: Forest Lake Baptist Church, Forest Lake, PA
November 7th-11th: Berean Baptist Church, Bunker Hill, IL (missions conference).

As you can see, there are 3 Sundays still open during our time out East. Pray that the Lord would fill these Sundays if possible, or maybe He just wants us to have some time off. We seek His direction and guidance over the openings in our schedule.

Thank you for your prayers! We look forward to sharing with you how God is answering!

By God's grace,
Andy, Elizabeth and Judah Smith