

Smith Soundings November 2008

WHEW! A big sigh of relief—God led us home safely to Iowa and we have completed our 10-week tour of deputation meetings. We started and ended in Illinois and visited Kansas, Maryland, New York, Virginia, New Jersey, South Carolina, Delaware and Pennsylvania in between. We wish to send you all a big “Thank You” for all your prayers on our behalf over the last 2 ½ months! We saw God work in so many ways as He kept us safe and provided for our every need. We traveled a total of 9,060 miles (changed the oil three times in two months!) and we spent 193 hours in the van! So you can see why we can’t stop praising the Lord for keeping us safe on the road! It felt like we lived in the van for 2 ½ months! We also thank the Lord for all the people who offered their homes to us on our trip! Each “home away from home” was a blessing!

The purpose of our trip was, of course, to meet new pastors and church congregations and tell them of our passion to serve as missionary church builders with Continental Baptist Missions (CBM). We had a total of 16 presentations in churches and 18 meetings with pastors to pursue future meetings. All of our meetings went extremely well! We were especially pleased with all the meetings we had personally with pastors to discuss our ministry and future meetings with their congregations. The Lord allowed these meetings to go well and we have an almost full schedule for our next trip out East which is scheduled for fall 2009.

In the past 2 ½ months, the Lord has increased our support by 8%! We have been blessed with 61.5% of our total need. We PRAISE THE LORD for this blessing. Even in the midst of our current economy when we have had several people tell us to expect a stall in the increase of our support, the Lord is still steadily blessing. We realize a stall still may come, but more importantly, we know that the Lord is still in charge of our support level and everything comes in His timing!

We have wonderful news that we have been dieing to share with you all. We are expecting our second child in May 2009! May 6th to be exact. Elizabeth is in her fifth month of pregnancy, 17 weeks along this week (Thanksgiving week) and doing well so far. We found out about this new life just three days before Collin’s birthday (in August), so it made his birthday much easier for us to handle knowing that the Lord had blessed us again in this way. While we were out East, we saw doctors in New Jersey and Baltimore and those were both very good experiences. We are happy, however, to be back home now that the pregnancy is farther along. This pregnancy is, of course, a huge blessing, but also a huge prayer request for us. We are trusting the Lord for a healthy pregnancy and no problems. Please pray for us especially through the week of Christmas. That will be our 20th week of pregnancy—the point where Collin was born when we were expecting him. We want to trust the Lord and stay positive, but worry seems to creep in unexpectedly sometimes. Thank you for your prayers and we will keep you updated on how we are doing!

Thank you again for your prayers and support over the last month. We look forward to this holiday season, Thanksgiving and Christmas, with our families in Iowa. We have no meetings scheduled as of right now, so we are just taking some time to rest and get caught up on things—house cleaning, yard work, letters, doctors appointments, etc. All the normal things of life! It

will be nice to have a month of “normal”. Be sure to check in on us through our blog: <http://blog.andyandelizabethsmith.com>. We updated it several times through our trip, so you can read our back entries and get caught up. We will keep updating it hopefully weekly.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!
Andy & Elizabeth Smith