

The Smith Soundings Quarterly Update September 2011

Andy & Elizabeth Smith, Missionary Builders with Continental Baptist Missions

Calvary Baptist Church, Sauk City, Wisconsin: Current progress and goals.

Well, our first church building project is drawing to a close. What a great experience it has been!

We have been working with Calvary Baptist Church of Sauk City, WI since late April to help them build a new sanctuary, and now we are almost done. We have had many volunteers come in to help us and we have appreciated every effort made by the people in the church as well. As of right now, our goal for completion is late September. The church body has set October 9th as their goal to have their first church service in their new building!

Right now Andy and the other builders are working on laying tile, trim work and many other last details. Andy is finished with his electrical work responsibilities with fellow missionary, Charlie Gartin. Andy has really valued the opportu-



Andy counts it a pleasure to work on the majority of the electrical needs for the church under the leadership of fellow missionary, Charlie Gartin. Here you can see the cross on the front of the church lit up at night.

nity to work with Charlie and learn even more about the electrical field.

FUTURE PLANS:

We plan to pull our trailer out of Snuffy's Campground around October 13th and move to Marshalltown, IA, where we have some property. We will make that our home base as we attend a cousin's wedding and update some of our supporting churches. We will also do some maintenance work on our home and property.

In early November, we plan to move to our next project in Guilderland, NY, where we will be helping Grace Baptist Church to build a parsonage for their future pastor. They anticipate that by being able to offer a pastor a parsonage, they will be able to graduate from a mission church to a self-supporting church. We look forward to this move and seeing what God has in store for us as we serve this church body. Please pray for our travel safety and quick acclimation to life in New York!

Time for family:

We praise God especially for our time as a family in late August. We wanted to memorialize our first son, Collin, on what would have been his fourth birthday. God enabled us to be able to make the trip to Collin's memorial and back in one weekend so that Andy would not have to miss work.

Even though it was a quick trip, we felt that we had adequate time to visit Collin's place and just enjoy our family as God, in his sovereignty, has designed it. It was our first "vacation" with the boys and we all enjoyed it very much. Thank you for praying for us!



Judah and Asher playing with tractors at Collin's memorial in Iowa.

In This Issue:

- Work on the building project draws to a close.
- Moving plans and our next project location.
- Testimonies of blessings from God: in our church and in our family.
- Our schedule for updating churches!
- Updates on Judah and Asher!
- Updated prayer requests!



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Blessings in the church:

It has been a privilege to watch God bless the church body here in Wisconsin over the last three months! The Vacation Bible School ministry in August was a success in many ways! We praise God that two young girls learned of their need for Christ and responded to their need for forgiveness of sin!

What a blessing it was to be at CBC this last Labor Day weekend! I was in the back with Asher, and our friend Bob, the church greeter, told me that we needed just three more people to come and we would have 100 people at the morning service! Not two minutes later, and three more people walked in the door! Numbers are not what

we glory in, but it was so neat to see God bring so many people to church that morning! And Pastor Lindsey, by the Spirit's leading and provision, delivered a wonderful sermon on the conversion of Paul. How marvelous to find out later that a young lady accepted Christ as her Savior as a result of the Spirit's work on her heart during that sermon!

This weekend we have a ladies tea party at the church, which is one of the church's major outreach activities of the year. We are anticipating a large crowd with many unsaved visitors. I thank God for the church body here and the heart they have for the unsaved!

Personal Blessings:

The verse in the right margin was given to me by a fellow missionary lady after I shared with her about how the Lord has recently blessed us:

Recently Andy told me that there was a need in our finances for the month and that he didn't know where the money could be found. He had spent at least two extra hours trying to find a way to make things work.

The next day Andy came home for his lunch break, and with an envelope in his hand, said that God had done something amazing to meet our need: we had received a check in the mail for the EXACT amount of money that we were short. This money came, seemingly, out of nowhere.

I tell you this as personal testimony to the truth of Isaiah 65:24. God knew our need and provided a solution before we even knew our need existed! Praise God! What encouragement to us when we face great needs in our lives!

Another blessing came recently when another fellow missionary lady who offered to stay with Judah and Asher for the afternoon so that I could volunteer to help at the build site. This was not something I had considered before, but once the idea was set before me, I became excited at the opportunity to help out on the project. The afternoon I volunteered, I was able to help put polyurethane on the trim. It was a good

experience for me to see the work going on around me—each of the builders having their specific jobs and specialties—all working together toward one goal. God has blessed us by giving us this team of builders to work with.

Another blessing has been the progress toward reaching a solution to our problems with our insurance claims from Andy's motor vehicle accident (MVA) in January of this year. If you remember, none of the medical claims have been covered by our health insurance carrier or our auto insurance carrier. Turns out it matters where the MVA took place, which in this case, was Michigan. To make a long story short, our health insurance has finally recognized the fact that the MVA took place in Michigan, and they have now begun the process of amending our denied claims. We Praise God for this development! It was an issue of concern for us that we were nearing the one year expiration date for our claims and nothing had been covered yet. Please continue to pray that these claims will be covered according to our insurance policy benefits.

Elizabeth during her work day at the church: putting poly on the "rosettes."



One of our speakers from the Annual Ladies Tea Party. The theme was, "Jesus: The Bright and Morning Star."

*"It will come to pass
that before they call,
I will answer;
and while they are still speaking,
I will hear."*

Isaiah 65:24

We feel blessed to be able to update some of our supporting churches while we are between projects. Our schedule is listed below. Please be in prayer for our safety and effective ministry.

- Oct. 9th: First Baptist Church, Austin, MN.
- Oct. 16th: First Baptist Church, Loup City, NE.
- Oct. 23rd: Dedication Sunday at Calvary Baptist Church in Sauk City, WI.
- Oct. 30: Fruitland Baptist Church, Muscatine, IA.



Andy laying tile in the new church building.

Updates on Judah and Asher:

Judah is now almost 2 1/2 years old. His vocabulary is getting bigger every day and it is getting easier to understand all that he is saying. To say he is full of energy seems like an understatement! He loves playing with his cousins, Brandon and Ethan, who are also here on the build site with their parents Jeremy (Andy's brother) and Jodi. He looks forward to going to church and has made many friends there too. He has started to want to pray before, during and after each meal! It is such a joy to interact with him in such meaningful ways!

Asher will be 10 months old this month and has made giant leaps and strides in his development over the last two months! He is now sitting up, crawling, climbing stairs,



cruising along furniture, and becoming more vocal—especially in church! He plays really well independently and also loves to watch what his big brother is doing. He especially loves to see his daddy come home from work and gives big smiles and giggles!



(Pictured at left): Judah “working” on a truck. He got to attend the gas and steam engine show with Daddy and the other builders one afternoon in Baraboo, WI. (Pictured above and at right): Asher playing before bedtime and discovering himself in the mirror.



Please remember to pray:

Thank you for your prayers for us. Here are some praise and prayer requests for our family and for our CBM family:

- Praise God for placing us on this building team in Sauk City, WI and for the blessing of being a part of this ministry.
- Praise God for how He is meeting our needs financially and otherwise. Our current financial need is \$393.00 per month in order to reach 100% support.
- Praise God for the progress in getting Andy's health insurance claims covered from his motor vehicle accident in January. Please continue to pray for this process and that things would resolve completely soon.
- Please continue to pray for Andy's safety on the work site. Also pray for our testimony to the other workers, church members and visitors to the build site.
- Please pray for us as we start to pack up our belongings and work toward the departure date of October 13th. Pray for safety as we travel and for no problems with truck or trailer.
- Please pray for our friends and fellow missionary builders, the Robinsons. Dennis has injured his knee and had to stop his work with the other builders. Dennis and Peggy have now moved home and have a knee surgery date set for Dennis of October 10th. Please pray that the surgery goes well and that Dennis will recover fully. Cover them both with your prayers as they face this surgery and the following recovery time.
- Please pray for our family as we move to New York in November. Another transition for us and another opportunity for us to lean on God. Pray that we let Him be our constant strength and comfort.
- Please continue to pray for Judah and Asher's health, safety and, ultimately, their salvation.

Thank you again for your prayers and support for our family!

By God's grace,

Andy & Elizabeth, Judah & Asher Smith



Our family at the “Field of Dreams” movie site in Dyersville, IA. A day trip for us at the end of August.