

Aug/Sept 2016

Dear Prayer Partners,

***“I will go in the strength of the Lord God: I will make mention of thy righteousness, even of thine only. Thou, which hast shewed me great and sore troubles, shall quicken me again. . . Thou shalt increase my greatness, and comfort me on every side.” -- Psalm 71:16, 20,21***

After arriving home Sunday evening from having spent 2 and 1/2 days in the hospital, the Lord reminded us from His Word that our strength comes from Him, and that he once again has given us more time to serve Him. Mike suffered a mild heart attack on Friday due to a blood clot they found around the heart. Praise the Lord there is no blockage in any artery, but the blood clot issue could have been fatal. He is on blood thinners to dissolve any clots and prevent further issues. How thankful we are for His comfort, grace and strength! We are once again very thankful for those who prayed for us both during these trying couple of days. And we would ask that you continue to pray for us - both for our health and peace of mind as we serve the Lord in whatever way He wants, seeking to glorify HIM!

### **Ministry**

After returning from our 2-month trip during the summer months, our work was really cut out for us. Since we had had so many of our church folk move away, and then with our being gone, we knew we were almost starting over again. The Lord has been gracious as we have seen one couple in particular return and have been faithful in attendance. They also have been coming faithfully to our mid-week Bible study and prayer meeting, which they hadn't done before. They also have been helping us in our nursing home service each month! Another man, who had moved away, moved back nearby, and started coming back to church. Then, we have another couple that had come once in a while, and we have been praying for, who have been coming each week for several weeks now. Praise the Lord! Just yesterday, a new lady came from the neighborhood for the first time.

Sue has resumed our weekly Ladies' Bible Studies, and we would ask you to pray that the Lord would direct in this ministry to reach ladies in our

neighborhood. We are so thankful to see God doing His work in His way!

### **Highlights**

We are so very thankful for God's provision for us. After returning from our deputation trip, we received word that one of the churches we ministered in called and reported that they were taking us on for monthly financial support! Praise the Lord for these new "partners" in our ministry! We are praying and trusting that there are still a few other churches who are considering taking us on soon, too. Please pray with us!

We also received a couple of extra gifts from individuals and churches that helped us immensely. Thank you all for praying for our needs. As we face a new set of circumstances (new hospital bills, etc.), we are trusting the Lord to meet these additional expenses also. He is STILL in control!

### **Miracles**

For a number of years, the Lord has impressed on us that we needed to do something about replacing our baby grand piano.

It has aged very much over the past 45 years since we got it, and it was about 40 years old then! It was becoming more and more necessary to have major repairs to keep in good condition. It also took up a lot of space, was hard to move, etc. While it was a difficult decision to make, the Lord gave tremendous peace that He would provide. So, we advertised it on Craig's list. About 2 weeks later, we sold it! And the VERY NEXT DAY, God provided a lovely Kawai studio piano! It is nearly new, in beautiful condition, and a long-time dear friend, who is a piano technician, delivered it to us from Tennessee! Never in our wildest dreams would we have thought God would do such a wonderful thing for us. How we praise Him for these "extras" He does for us!



### Blessings

For two weeks in September, we were blessed to have Nathan and Hannah Fry, a young couple with our mission agency, visit from PA to take videos of our work and area around us. They are in the process of producing a new video for us to use in future deputation opportunities to better acquaint people with the challenges and blessings of the needs of the West. Please pray for them as they continue to process this presentation.

### Prayer Requests

- Churches we have visited as they decide on future support for us.
- Continued growth of our church here in Rimrock and new contacts.
- Our upcoming trip to Ambassador Baptist College for Missions Conference at the end of October and first week of Nov.
- Wisdom in finding help to develop church website.
- Wisdom as we deal with new medication for Mike and for continued good health.

Mike: [rimrockparson@gmail.com](mailto:rimrockparson@gmail.com) Sue: [rrpianist@gmail.com](mailto:rrpianist@gmail.com) website: [www.GoWestForGod.org](http://www.GoWestForGod.org)

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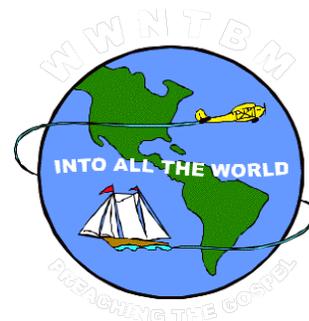
While we have been busy in the ministry here in Rimrock, the devil has been busy as well, trying to discourage and defeat us. We have had some health issues that just slow us down. Mike has had dental work done; (he still has work to be done, but now on hold due to heart issues - please pray he won't develop complications with his teeth.) Sue had an eye surgery last week. While the Lord has healed us and brought us through these health issues, it does present difficulties. And then, having experienced the recent emergency hospital stay, we realize how true it is that "our days are numbered." It is our prayer that God will direct us in these next few years to bring glory to HIM in the work where He has called us, and to see other young couples respond to the call to serve Him here in the western states. Please pray with us for new recruits!

We thank each of you who partner with us through your prayers and support as we continue to serve the Lord here in the Mountain West.

In His service,

*Mike & Sue Smith*

Mike and Sue Smith  
 4557 E. Cliffside Trail  
 Rimrock, Arizona 86335  
 Mike's Cell: 704-466-5594; Sue's: 704-466-5595



***"Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labor. For we are laborers together with God..." I Corinthians 3:8,9***