

Stevenson Prayer Letter

February 11, 2010

Even though we do not yet have an open door for new ministry, I wanted to let you know what's been going on as Roberta and I wait upon the Lord for His leading.

Since leaving Waterford in early December, we have been visiting churches in Maine, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois. In most cases, we've talked to leadership in the church about the church strengthening ministry of ABWE, and then I have preached in whatever service we happened to be there for. I've encouraged church leaders to contact the ABWE HQ's if they are interested in that type of ministry for their own church. So far, three churches have contacted ABWE, but only one has pursued anything at all beyond an initial contact.

We have also contacted men in positions of leadership for groups of churches: the ORBC (in Ohio) and the MRBC (in Michigan) and so on. And men in schools and seminaries, and other mission agencies, and so on who might know of struggling churches. Those who have responded have had little to offer. There's a paradox: almost everyone agrees that there are many churches which desperately need help, but almost no one can actually name one! To me, this is great news (that there are many small Baptist Churches in good shape)! Still, it also means that we must keep plugging along in our search. Most of the churches we have contacted so far, I found on the internet searching under BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKING BI-VOCATIONAL PASTOR or such.

We've enjoyed a few visits with supporting churches - out in Toledo, down in Atlantic City, and our home church, in Haddon Heights, although it's only been for one Wednesday evening service so far.

Last Sunday, Roberta and I had the privilege of being part of the Installation Service for Pastor Jim out in Waterford. What a great day to testify of the Lord's goodness there! We enjoyed beyond description being with our brothers and sisters there.

As I write this up-date, we are staying in a missionary unit in Haddon Heights, where it's still snowing. How odd it felt to drive away from Waterford where there's only about six inches of snow on the ground, and come back to New Jersey to find 15 inches on the ground and 20 more in the air! It's all backwards!

Please continue to pray for us:

Pray for the ministry in Waterford in these transition days for Pastor Jim.

Pray for the ministry we have in the churches we visit.

Pray for the Lord to show us what He has for us in His time.

Pray for us to be faithful and diligent as we study and prepare, and wait upon the Lord.

We thank you again for standing with us and caring about the things God cares about!

In His matchless name,
John and Roberta

You can still use our Waterford address and the mail will be forwarded to us. Or, temporarily, you can reach us at 204 Third Avenue Haddon Heights NJ 08035

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