Smith Family Prayer Letter April-May 2021

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Dear Faithful Supporters,

Greetings in the name of our Lord. We have been in the Kermit, WV area serving as fill in Pastor for Stepptown Baptist Church. We served here February through April. Kermit is on the WV/KY border of the state. Coal mining is big here and most of the people's families have worked in the coal mines for generations. Interesting fact, this is the area where the Hatfields and McCoys had their feud. Please help us pray this small church in rural WV can find their next pastor. We have tried to help them in their pastor search. This ministry is not for everyone, but God knows who their next pastor will be. Stepptown has a congregation of around 30 people. They are also part of the Rural America Mission Society. They have a mission house and property in one of the hollows here. They are wanting whoever the Lord calls as their pastor to get involved with working the mission also. The mission house has boy and girl dorm rooms also. They say in the past the mission had a lot of programs and activities for the children in the area and would like someone to take up the mantle and get it going again. April 25th is our last Sunday at Stepptown Baptist Church. We have tried to help these dear people and encourage them. We have found a lot of churches just have no idea how to begin a search for a new pastor and what questions to ask.

In May, we start as fill in for a pastor in Taylorsville, KY. We will be there most of the summer. We are excited to begin a new area of service for the Lord. Help us pray we will be a help and encouragement to the people there while their pastor is away for a few months.

Our schedule for the rest of the year is getting full. Please help us pray for others to see the need to fill in the gap for pastors and missionaries here in the USA and abroad. We get calls often asking if we can help them. It is disappointing to have to turn them down because we are already booked. They often ask if we can recommend someone else that might be available. The problem is there are not a lot of preachers/missionaries available to fill in for an extended amount of time.

Looks like the end of the year we will be serving out west, but we will give more information on that later in the year. Thank you for your prayers and support for our ministry. We appreciate you more than we can express. May the Lord bless you for all you do to further the gospel around the world.

Proverbs 3:5-6

"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths"

In His Hands,

Gerry and Denise Smith