

Reaching small towns in South Dakota



the Beaudoin Family



And he said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth. Mark 1:38

December 2021

Dear Praying Friends,

Busy Doings

The past few months have been a blessed kind of busy. We went from a busy summer schedule to a busier fall schedule. I spent 3 months filling in for Missionary Caleb Hewett in Dickinson, ND while also continuing to work the ministry in South Dakota. I finished my last Sunday in North Dakota and the next day left out for a couple of weeks on the road in Kentucky. I got home to South Dakota in time for Thanksgiving. I am glad to be able to spend a little time at home before heading back out on deputation the first of January.

I have been able to do some scouting of towns to evaluate their needs and ministry opportunities. During these scouting trips I am reminded of the words of Christ when he said "the harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few". There are not just a few dozen towns without a gospel witness but hundreds, and this is just counting those in South Dakota. Each of these towns are populated with lost souls that need to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

One of the towns I have been able to scout is Kadoka, SD, population 745. Located just off I-90 and 95 miles east of Rapid City. Kadoka experiences a busy summer of tourists on their way to Mount Rushmore and the Badlands but once the summer is over it gets pretty quiet. Sadly, there is no gospel preaching church available to them within the city limits. In fact, the closest gospel preaching church is 75 miles away in Batesland, SD. It is imperative that we begin reaching these towns with the gospel.

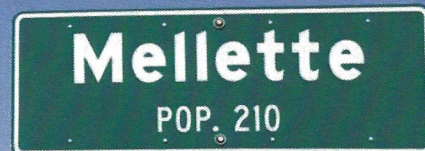
Life in a small town

Life in a small town is much different from that in a big city or urban area. One aspect that can be much different is your everyday shopping experience. When we moved to South Dakota 8 years ago, we learned that you are limited to a few local stores but need to travel a greater distance for your national chains and increased selection. For instance, in our town we have a grocery store and a hardware store but drive over 50 miles to Wal-mart and Target but then its 225 miles to a big city where we can find Sam's and Costco. We were excited that in August our little town of 736 got a Dollar General Store. For many this is not a big deal but for us it was a game changer. First it gives us a place to buy a larger selection of items that were

Contact: Benji & Leah Beaudoin PO Box 32, Faulkton, SD 57438 ph 605.290.6607 benjibeaudoin@mwbm.org
Sending Church: Liberty Baptist Church 3501 N University, Lafayette, LA 70507 Pastor Jeff Sistrunk
Support Address: Macedonia World Baptist Missions, Inc. PO Box 519, Braselton, GA 30517 ph706.654.2818



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not available in our town and secondly it gave us a place to shop past 6 o'clock, Dollar General is open until 10 o'clock * A short time after writing this my wife informed me that Dollar General will be closing at 6:00 until further notice- It was nice while it lasted*

Moving Forward

There were several things that we learned from our tent meetings this summer. Some of these lessons will be put into practice for next year. One very important lesson we learned is that the cost of each meeting will be higher than anticipated. For one meeting we had to rent the community center for 3 days at a cost of \$150 so that we would have bathrooms available.

As mentioned earlier I will be setting out on deputation again in January. Please pray that meetings will be booked and not get cancelled due to Covid. I had several meetings in the spring cancelled due to Covid but we were able to add some supporting churches. If you know of a church that is looking for missionaries to support please let them know about our ministry.

Needs

Besides additional support we do ask that you help us pray about some needs that we have. We are still praying that the LORD will help us find a replacement for my Toyota Sienna van which I use as the primary vehicle for ministry and deputation, it currently has over 340,000 miles and no air conditioning. We also need a pellet wood stove for the house because we currently have electric heat which doesn't heat well at thirty below and causes our electric bill to be over \$500 a month during the winter. Also, be in prayer as we consider moving to a more central location in South Dakota to be better located for the ministry.

We are grateful for each of you in the ways you support us through your prayers, encouragements and financial giving.

In Christ

Benji Beaudoin

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