MISSIONARIES TO ALLEN, TEXAS

LEAKE Family

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Sending Church Morning Star **Baptist Church** 175 Young Mountain Rd. Cleveland, NC 27013 Pastor Ronald E. Young 704.278.1688

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Greetings and Happy New Year!! I can hardly believe that it's already 2023. With each new

year comes new goals, new visions, new mercies, and of course new hope! We give God all of the praise and glory for all that he DID in 2022 and for all that He WILL do in 20023! We set a new theme for this year at Harvest Baptist Church. "Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." (Mk. 9:23) Our theme for this year is "LET US BELIEVE IN 2023!" There are many reasons why I believe that God laid this verse on my heart for this new year. This truth is good for me as an individual, for my family, and of course, for the church. It is so easy to get caught in the sin of UN-belief, and we too; like this father in the text of Mk. 9; must at times ask our Lord to ". help our own unbelief".

As far as our church plant goes, there are some very positive things to report. We have continued to have new visitors every week. On Christmas morning we had 20, and 4 of them were first time visitors. Although, in church life (especially church planting) many people come and go, we have 2 new families that have been attending for several weeks. Another answer to prayer came in regards to the church's physical meeting place. We have a three-year lease on the store front where we meet, and it will expire in April. It has been a heavy burden on my heart, not knowing what to do and where we would meet. I have prayed much about this, because in order to extend our lease our rent would be about doubled. Praise God, a few days ago the landlord said he didn't want us to leave, and he agreed to extend for 1 year longer under the exact same lease terms and rent amount that we currently have with no changes. To God be the glory! He is still at work in Allen, TX!

We continue to covet your prayers for the ministry, and our family, especially our daughter Hannah. Things continue to be very difficult and challenging, but we have chosen to press on and we will BELIEVE in 2023! We had several supporters let us know last week that they will no longer be supporting us financially, due to the length of time we've been out here. I understand that. We are asking the rest of you to please prayerfully consider continuing our support for at least one more year, and let's see what God may do here in Allen, TX. We do have many prayer requests, but I'll share only one at this time. We have always been a 1 vehicle family and that's fine with us, however we could really use a second vehicle at this time in our family. If you know of a decent reliable vehicle that is available to be donated or purchased at an affordable price, please contact us so we can determine if it might meet our current need. As always, we are grateful for your faithful love, prayers, and support to help us reach Allen, TX and the surrounding areas for Jesus Christ!

> In Christ, The Leake Family Mt. 9:38