



the Pannell Family

Missionaries to the Upper Midwest

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Montana
North Dakota
South Dakota
Minnesota
Iowa
Nebraska
Wyoming

I'm excited to write this prayer letter and tell you what the Lord is doing here in South Dakota! We have had so many prayers answered over these past few months, and the Lord has continued to expand my vision and goals to reach the Upper Midwest with the Gospel!

Although our short term goal is to plant a church here on the west side of Sioux Falls, the long term plan is to use the first church plant as a home base or hub for reaching out into the next towns. This overall goal requires many smaller steps to be taken and can be broken down into many smaller ministries. We want to focus energy on outreach to get the gospel into local homes and get people to church; we want to preach the Word to see people saved; and we want to disciple those that we see saved so they can continue to grow and serve the Lord.

The winter here makes it very difficult to physically go knock on doors and invite people to church; so we are taking advantage of the postal service Every Door Direct Mail Out program to get the gospel and an invitation into every home in our town and 3 surrounding towns. These mail outs were paid for by a special offering that we took up in church, and it is a great blessing to see a young church plant so willing to give!

I believe our ministry will follow the pattern of using mail outs and personal soul winning in the winter months, and then focus on door knocking outreaches over the summer when the weather allows us to get out and canvass. This week we are having a soul winning conference where Missionary Evangelist Chris Hewett will preach and teach on the practical side of personal soul winning and evangelism. Many of our church attendees already plan to come to the conference! This summer we will host a tent meeting in our town as one of our major outreach events. We would love to have individuals, teams or groups from churches come out to help us. We plan to spend a week passing out flyers and tagging doors with invitations (July 24-28), followed by a week long gospel tent meeting with services each night (July 30-August 4). If your church would like to participate, please contact me to make arrangements.

For years now, we have considered, researched and prayed that the Lord would allow us to have an aviation ministry as part of our overall ministry in the Midwest. A plane would allow us to reach a town much further away so we can preach in multiple locations throughout the week. We now have a man attending church that owns a plane and has a great desire to use it to serve the Lord! A van ministry would allow us to bring people in that typically would not be able to get to church. Several in our church have come forward with a desire to help in a van ministry! A van is a major item on our prayer list, and we trust the Lord will provide. We hosted our vision service this Sunday and gave everyone an opportunity to sign up for areas they want to serve and things they want to participate in. We had around 20 adults commit to everything from cleaning the church to leading

songs, to having weekly and monthly meals and discipleship!

Prayer letters usually tell all the good and happy things that are going on and tend to gloss over the hard parts. Winter in South Dakota is hard! We had 3 blizzards in 3 weeks which caused us to cancel multiple church services and even get stuck in our house for days at a time. By the third week, we decided to go to church anyway and braved the crazy weather and difficult roads because we missed being in the Lord's house together. The days are short, and sometimes there's not even sunlight with all the clouds and snow. We certainly feel the effects of isolation and harsh weather. But God has continued to lift us up and encourage us through answered prayers, wonderful fellowship and by pouring out blessing upon blessing! The kids absolutely love the snow and don't seem to mind the weather at all. I say all of this, not to complain, but to give a realistic idea of practical ways you can pray for us. Pray that the weather won't be a hindrance to our family or our ministry and that road conditions will not be an excuse for people to skip church services. Due to these types of situations, I began praying for a snow plow for my truck. I didn't mention the need to anyone, but a few days later I got a call that a check was in the mail to purchase a plow for our truck! Praise the Lord! I am thankful for a God who can answer our private prayer requests. This plow will allow us to get to the church and keep the parking lot accessible so we won't have to cancel services due to snow, and to minister to others when the need arises.

We are praying that the Lord would send another young family to intern with us in our ministry. Having another preacher and his family here with us would alleviate so many pain points and allow us to achieve goals so much faster. We desire to see many other men called to the Midwest, and we want to fully support them through training, fellowship, and an opportunity to serve in our local church to learn the ropes. Pastors, please contact me if you have a man in your church that would consider an internship with us.

I anticipate that 2023 will be a great year of serving the Lord and watching Him work in the upper Midwest! Please help us pray over all of the plans we have shared and our HUGE vision for the ministry here.

- Plane ministry (I hope to pursue my pilots license this year)
- Van/bus ministry (donations can go to MWBM or Cornerstone Baptist Church)
- Discipleship classes
- Interns/men called to the Midwest
- Property/ home to house our family, our ministry, and future interns

Scott Pannell
Upper Midwest USA