

Pannell Family Missionaries to the Upper Midwest 1st Quarter 2023 Prayer Letter

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Montana North Dakota South Dakota Minnesota Iowa Nebraska Wyoming We are so ready for spring to arrive here in South Dakota! We have been watching geese fly north for a few weeks now, but they have yet to bring warmer weather with them. This winter quarter has been an exciting and busy few months for us. In January, we hosted our first ever soul winning conference. We had a lot of intense and specific preaching on how to talk to people of different religions about the gospel. We all learned so much, and it was received well by all in attendance. Two souls were saved during the conference, and we praise the Lord for that!

We thought we would have to wait until everything thawed out before we could baptize anyone, but the Lord provided an inflatable hot tub for us to put indoors for our baptism service. We baptized two in March! We had 49 in attendance at the baptism service and only 44 chairs in our sanctuary.

The snow plow that the Lord gave us has been put to great use this winter. It has allowed me to plow the church parking lot in less than an hour compared to 3-4 hours with a snowblower and shovel. After one storm, I plowed driveways for some of our church folks, and after a huge blizzard, I spent a day plowing people out of our neighborhood when they got stuck. It has helped me make a connection with our neighbors and hopefully be a blessing to many. Pray the Lord will continue to use the plow for His glory.

We began a weekly discipleship class this year and have had a great time learning basic Bible doctrines. On Tuesday nights, I host a men's class, and on Wednesday nights, Kim hosts a ladies' class. We have had 6 men and 9 ladies attending regularly! This discipleship program contains a total of 20 lessons. So far, we have completed 4 of the lessons.

Looking forward to this summer, we have a lot of big plans for our ministry. We are praying about housing accommodations for several interns. The funds were already provided for us to put in 2 RV hookups at our church building which will allow a helps ministry to come and stay for 6 months this year to assist us. The helps ministry will have their own camper, but we still need to purchase a camper for the other interns. We also have a gospel tent meeting planned for the end of July/beginning of August. We will need at least \$6000 to get the tent team here and feed and house them for the 2 weeks they will be in Sioux Falls. Please help us pray that the Lord will provide the camper, the funds for the tent meeting, and the myriad logistical items and funds required to host interns here in our ministry. Our goal is to train other preachers and families to minister to the people of the Upper Midwest (it is a unique place and people, most certainly!).

We are approaching the end of our homeschool year at the end of April, and we will be preparing to begin a new academic year. Seth has learned to read this year, Maddy started a sewing business and learned all of her multiplication tables, and Lillee has read more than 20 extra books this school year. Also, God gave us a free piano to put at home so Kim can practice more, and hopefully, soon the girls can begin taking lessons.

On May 7th, we will celebrate the one-year anniversary of our Grand Opening at our church building. I plan to have special preaching, a big meal and a special time of fellowship that Sunday. We praise the Lord for allowing us to be here in South Dakota and giving us a whole year in our own building, and we want to celebrate! Lord willing, we have many years ahead here in South Dakota.

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