The Howard Family Rickey April Cash Carter

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CHURCH PLANTING
MISSIONARIES
TO UTAH
AND THE
SOUTHWEST

December 2024

Dear Pastor and Praying Friends,

Isaiah 9:6, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

What's Happened:

Carter had a lingering illness going on in October. After trying to figure out what was going on, an urgent care doctor sent him to the ER to be checked for appendicitis. After a few hours in the ER, a long ultrasound, and a visit with a surgeon, we learned that he would need to have an emergency appendectomy. We praise the Lord that it hadn't gotten to the point of rupturing. We are highly blessed to be in a city with such wonderful medical care and facilities! He has recovered well and feels a lot better!

The ministry of Solid Rock Baptist Church is continuing to grow, and we praise the Lord for it. We have had a number of people visit the church over the past few months, and we had one family join the church. One of the young boys that attends church with his family called on the Lord to save him back in October. Since he got saved, he has been on fire for his older siblings to be in church and to be saved as well. It remains obvious that there's a great need for the truth to be shared and preached in this area. We have been blessed with great people who are eager to serve the Lord. Carter has been taking piano lessons for a few months now and is learning very quickly. He has been excited to play the offertory each Sunday morning for the past couple months. April recently completed discipleship with 7 of the ladies in the church! Through the leadership of my pastor, we began holding Bible college classes through North Georgia Baptist College for those who are participating in the ministry here. It has already shown to be a help to those who are taking the classes. Our first semester was a success, and everyone was excited to begin the second semester!

Our family and the church had the opportunity to host Brother Tim McCulley and his wife Deborah in October. It is not often that missionaries travel through this area; so it was great to have him present the ministry that God has called him to and preach for us. This was especially a blessing for my family because the McCulleys have been a wonderful encouragement and help to us along the way.

Thanksgiving is the busy part of the holiday season for us. We had a Thanksgiving meal at the church, where we had several visitors. Our family took the week of Thanksgiving to go back to Georgia and be with family. Not only does this give us an opportunity to spend a holiday with our family, but I was also able to visit and preach at our home church and my brother-in-law's church. It's always great to be able to update our sending church in person and to meet all the new people God has brought in over the past year.

What's Coming:

After coming back from our Thanksgiving trip, we had a meeting with the manager of the Mesquite Community Theatre. As we have mentioned before, Mesquite, Nevada, and the surrounding area need a solid independent Baptist church. The theatre is in the downtown area of Mesquite and is very accessible. With it being a "per use" rental, not tying us into another lease, we believe this would be a great location to start our next church plant. We are planning to begin this church on the first Sunday of February 2025!

The last week of January, we will be celebrating our second anniversary as a church! We will once again have an annual Anniversary Revival to celebrate the occasion. My pastor, his family, and a potential church planting couple will be coming out again for this meeting. This meeting was a great blessing to our church last year, and the people here are already anticipating another great celebration week!

Praises:

- 1. We found a location for the Mesquite, NV church plant!
- 2. The first semester of the Bible College was a success!
- 3. We had a wonderful, refreshing trip home for Thanksgiving with family!

Prayer Requests:

- Our second church plant in Mesquite,
 NV
- 2. Our Annual Revival Meeting
- 3. Our Family

For Souls,

Richard L. Howard
The Howard Family
Jude 22





MERRY CHRISTMAS

with love, The Howard Family