



October/November 2017

Dear Praying Supporters,



In our last letter we shared how Reseeding America networked with independent Baptist churches in the Houston area that were providing help for storm victims due to Hurricane Harvey. Contributions continued to come in, so we then directed funds towards a number of Texas independent Baptist churches to repair their storm-hit buildings. When Hurricane Irma hit the Florida Keys and the southern portion of the state of Florida, we updated our Hurricane USA Disaster Relief page at bimi.org and continued raising funds to repair storm damage to independent Baptist churches in Florida and in Texas. Churches and individuals from around the country have been very generous, and we want to thank all who contributed

to this great need. The repair work continues in both Texas and Florida and if you would still like to be involved in this ministry of encouragement to hurting churches, go to bimi.org and click the tab for USA Disaster Relief. As soon as life gets back to a semi-normal state in the storm stricken areas, we will be organizing Gospel literature outreaches both in Houston and southern Florida.



In September, the fall mission conference season started. After holding a meeting in Chesapeake, Virginia, we flew to California for mission meetings and Reseeding America Sundays in Northern California. Then making our way south, we were able to assist in the opening of the River Ridge Baptist Church in Oxnard. It was a joy to take part in the distribution of material promoting the new church. We were also able to assist Reseeding America church planters David and Terri Azzarello on their opening weekend. Forty-five attended and there were four professions of faith.



October found us back in the central part of the country, speaking in mission conferences and meetings in Arkansas and Missouri. In Texas, we enjoyed preaching at the first anniversary of Victory Baptist Church in Commerce. Reseeding America church planters James and Andrea Mansfield and their seven boys started the church one year ago in this community northwest of Dallas. It was a good day for the church with a strong attendance and visitors. On the way back from Texas, we stopped to see and speak at a new church plant at Atoka, Oklahoma. I also enjoyed preaching at this church's "mother" church, Little Coweta Indian Baptist Church, near Eufaula, Oklahoma. The new work needs a pastor with a heart for church planting. Please make this a matter of prayer and if you would like more information please contact us.



We stayed busy in November right up to Thanksgiving week—first with a Reseeding America Sunday and revival in Arkansas. Then I flew back out to California and Arizona in mid-November to speak in the "Every City Commission Conference and Church Planting School" at Anchor Baptist Church in Covina, California, located on the north side of Los Angeles. Following this meeting, I drove to Phoenix, Arizona, to preach in a Mission Conference at Vision Baptist Church in Glendale. Finally, the Sunday before

Thanksgiving we presented the need for church planting in the inner cities of America at Franklin Road Baptist Church in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Please find enclosed our Christmas letter. We do wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and God's best for the New Year.

Bob & Jennifer Larson

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Enclosure



Sending Church: Friendship Baptist Church · Highland, AR · Mike Stanley, Pastor

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Merry Christmas

December 2017

We want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas! We trust this Christmas letter finds each of you doing well as you serve our Savior in this joyous season.

As we begin our 15th year with Baptist International Missions, Inc., and Reseeding America, we want to thank you who have partnered with us in prayer and financial support. We do want to give God all the glory for what He has allowed us to be a part of for His cause over the years. It is a joy to join with you in the starting and the restarting of independent Baptist churches across the country. We also want to thank the Lord for our USA missionaries and church planters that we have had an opportunity to work with through this ministry. Right now, there are 90 of them across the United States.

So many churches contacted us this year to ask for help in finding a new pastor. Thousands of miles were traveled to visit these churches and see if there was some way we could help them find a man of God. In some cases, God provided a pastor, but for others the search continues. Your prayers are appreciated for churches in the United States who are still needing and seeking a shepherd. We also have met and worked with pastors whose churches are in the beginning stages of planting a "baby" church in the future. Praise the Lord for their vision!

As many of you know, Jennifer was a missionary in Taiwan for many years. She speaks Mandarin and enjoys finding opportunities to use it in conversation as we travel. This past year we were in California on two separate occasions to assist in new church plants. On one such occasion, we were very happy that she knew Mandarin and could speak it fluently. When we arrived at our Airbnb apartment that we had rented in Oxnard, the family who owned the property were Chinese and the wife spoke little English. Jennifer stepped in and she was able to tell our delighted hostess who we were and that we were her renters. Without her communication skills we would have had to pull out our notebook and draw pictures!

We saw some changes in our family this year. The two oldest of our eleven grandchildren started college this fall. Alex is studying at a junior college near Fayetteville, Arkansas, in a new course of study linked to the prospect of a good engineering job. Meanwhile Emily started courses at Bob Jones University in South Carolina. We do pray that all our grandchildren would strive to serve the Lord and follow His leadership in all they do.

We were in Chattanooga for Thanksgiving and we will be there for the Christmas Holidays. After nearly forty weeks on the road, this is the time of year we come home to get caught up and plan for 2018.

May God bless all of you. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Bob and Jennifer Larson



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