



MINISTRY UPDATES

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH MISSION

A Passion For Ministry—IFCA International Convention Report

The month of June was an extended trip for Helen and me as we drove over 6,000 miles in deputation and ministry. The joy of being able to visit with so many of our dear friends and some of our supporting churches is indescribable. Over the thirty-five years of pastoral ministry God has given us a wonderful circle of friends and partners. Our time with Norm and Buzz Stark in Mendota, IL at the Mendota Bible Church was indeed a blessing. I have known Norm since my high school days in Ravenna, MI and have been blessed to renew the acquaintance over the years through the IFCA fellowship.

One of the highlights of our trip was the week we were able to spend in Honesdale, PA. During that week we were privileged to speak at four churches, Finch Hill Baptist Church where Dan Henwood serves as pastor, Cornerstone Bible Church in Forest City where Tim Madden serves, Calkins Union Baptist Church with Brother Lane Jones, and of course a wonderful day at our home church—Honesdale Gospel Tabernacle where our dear friends, Dick and Carol Gregory now serve as Dick is the Senior Pastor. Sal and Ruthann Santoli opened their home as our “headquarters” for the week and we once again enjoyed their wonderful gift of hospitality.

Our trip took us to West Virginia where our daughter Mary and her family live as

does our son, Matthew. What a special time being able to spend a few days with them.

Before we went to Springfield, IL for the Church Extension Conference and the IFCA Convention we had the joy of visiting in Michigan at Factoryville Bible Church. While in the area, we stayed with our son Mark and his family. We also enjoyed our time with Michael and April in Homewood, IL.

The blessings of the month-long trip culminated at the IFCA Church Extension Conference and the Convention. During the Church Extension Conference we had the opportunity to visit many dear friends at Trinity Community Church in Daleville, IN.

The Convention theme this year was indeed a great blessings as the speakers and workshop leaders developed that theme with such keen insights to Scripture and application to life. A passion for ministry is much more than just an emotional response to a well planned “cheering session.” It is a lifelong commitment to the call of God upon one’s life to serve Him. It is an expression of integrity in life as we handle the Word of God and as we live in purity and holiness before God.

This word passion is arresting as it speaks of that which drives, motivates,

and compels us as people. And believe me, we are all passionate about something—but what about ministry?

I know God used the Convention in my life to re-ignite a passion for Him and for ministry. It is easy to get “ho-hum” about some things which should always be burning in our hearts—the things of the Lord.

As Helen and I drove back to Colorado, I was reminded again that we have made a transition in our lives because we desire to be “passionate” about serving the Lord wherever He leads us. I was also reminded that there are a number of people who are also passionate about ministry who have become a part of our support team as individuals and as churches. As we move ahead in this year let’s ask God to make our passion for Him and for ministry a reality that cannot be hidden in the mundane of life.

May His love for us compel us to serve him more faithfully!

P.S. Be in prayer as the Boards of Southwest Bible Church Mission and RMBCM will have a joint meeting to finalize merger plans on September 11th.

Schedule

McCarroll Bible Church
Severance Community Church
Fairmount Bible Church
RMBCM Board Meeting
South Routt Bible Church
Severance Community Church
Fellowship Bible Church
McCarroll Bible Church

Schedule

July 4	McCarroll Bible Church	Aug 22
July 11	Grace Bible Church –Ordination Pastor May	Aug 28
July 18	Grace Bible Church—Collbran	Aug 29
July 24	SBCM and RMBCM Joint Board Meeting	Sep 11
July 25	Severance Community Church	Sep 12
Aug 1	Arizona IFCA Regional	Sep 17
Aug 8	Rocky Mountain IFCA Regional	Sep 27
Aug 15	New Mexico IFCA Regional	Oct 4

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Family News and Updates

We enjoyed having Michael and April and their children as well as Mark and his children [Jennie was attending the newly born puppies] visit us here in Colorado to help celebrate our 35th wedding anniversary. Although Mary and Jay could not come nor, Matthew—the challenges of children scattered across the US— we had a wonderful time with our family. Although Helen and I were busy trying to catch up on office work, I did squeeze in a camping trip with them. We thoroughly enjoyed our time at Green Ridge Campground just outside of the Rocky Mountain National Forest. The grandchildren had a great time fishing along the river. All I could get accomplished was baiting hooks, taking fish off, and taking some pictures. The following day we made a trip through Rocky Mountain National Park. It was great for the grandchildren to be able to see moose and elk as well as the grandeur of God's creation as seen from the Rockies.

Jay is spending most of August in Idaho for National Guard training and Mary is holding down the fort in WV with Matthew's help. Mark and his family are enjoying a litter of new puppies, English Bulldogs, as they are now about six weeks old. They are so cute in the pictures posted on Facebook. We thank the Lord for our family and the joy they bring into our lives.

Praise and Prayer Notes

- We celebrated our 35th wedding anniversary July 18!
- We praise God for His faithfulness in meeting our needs and sustaining us in our ministry.
- Pray for safety as I will be traveling many miles in the next few months working on the merger of the two missions.
- Continue to pray for God's wisdom as we work through the process of completing the merger of Southwest Bible Church Mission and Rocky Mountain Bible Church Mission.
- Praise the Lord for a good trip in June. We were blessed by so many friends during our visits.
- Pray for Loyal May, our missionary pastor in Collbran, as he prepares for ordination in August.
- Praise the Lord for the wonderful installation service for Phil Coleman at South Routt Bible Church.
- Green River Bible Church is working through the initial plans to begin a building program. Pray that Pastor Dunham will have wisdom as he works with building inspectors, etc. in trying to finalize the plans.
- Les and Nancy Gwin rejoice in God's provision of a vehicle donated to them. They have several outreach ministries planned yet this summer.
- Pray for the fall evangelistic campaign with Tom Palmer. Pray for the finances needed for the campaign expenses and love gift to the Palmers.
- Pray for Kevin and Mary Beth Chapman's support needs and for God to bless their ministry at Berean Bible Church in Santa Fe, NM.