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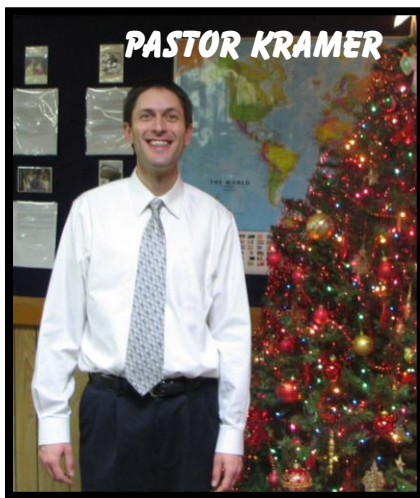
Mid-February 2013

Greetings!

We are so thankful for warranties! The Lord allowed our computer to have issues before the warranty expired, so that we could get it fixed without difficulty (other than time without the computer). What a blessing a warranty/guarantee is. Wouldn't you agree? How much more blessed is our guarantee of salvation that will never expire! Praise the Lord with us for His mercy, grace and unending salvation.

In our quest to reach the field of Argentina, and so to be able to train others to start and pastor churches, we have visited quite a few churches since our last newsletter.

In December, we visited two church bodies. First was Pastor Kramer and his church family at Norwoodville Baptist Church in Norwoodville, IA, which is part of the Des Moines Metro area. Second, we visited Athens Bible Church and Pastor and Mrs. Bill Hixson in The Plains, OH.



It was good to be able to spend some time with our home church, Community Baptist Church in Ankeny, IA, during the latter half of December. What a joy to have our daughter, Rose, visit with us for a week before Christmas. Douglas, our eldest son, slipped quietly into the house Sunday night, December 23rd, and surprised his siblings on Christmas Eve. We had a delightful Christmas Eve together before Rose left on Christmas. Doug left on New Year's Day. It was wonderful to be together as a complete family. Please continue to pray for each of them as they have unique challenges in their positions.

Also, during our "down-time," we were able to get a significant amount of work done on the van. We are so grateful for God's continuing protection! There were a few dangerous situations just waiting to happen, so it was a blessing that we had the time, between trips, to get them repaired.

Training Nationals for Ministry
Gospel Mission of South America

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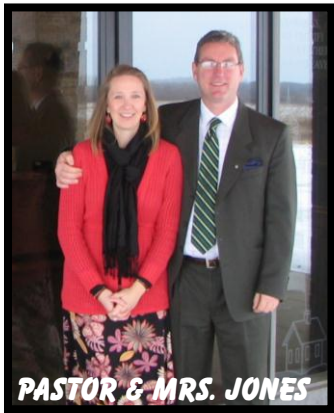
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January, we hit the road again with renewed vigor. The weekend of January 13th, we went to Southport Baptist Church in Kenosha, WI. The weather was so strange. There was sleet, but the roads weren't slippery while we were traveling. However, Sunday morning, there was a thick sheet of ice over everything, including our van. It took a half hour of warming the van to be able to get the ice off. So thankful for safety! It was fun to catch up on "things" with Pastor and Mrs. Scott Jones while we were there.

The weekend of January 20th, found Dave and Patti trekking up to Detroit Lakes, MN. The boys were blessed to be able to attend a youth retreat, "Winter Meltdown," in Iowa that weekend. The day of travel started out warm, sunny and in the high 40's. As we crossed into MN, the temperature started dropping. The high on Sunday ended up being below zero! But, no matter the temperature, the reception of Pastor and Mrs. Tim Riley and Berea Baptist Church was very warm.

Though we thought just traveling an hour to Bethel Baptist Church in Oskaloosa, IA, on January 27th, would be a breeze, we were wrong. Looking at the weather reports, we decided we should head there on Saturday evening in order to be in attendance on Sunday morning. How thankful we are for the Lord's leading! So many places were closed Sunday morning, and there were accidents and highway closures between Ankeny and Oskaloosa in the morning. The Lord allowed us to have safety yet another weekend. Thank you for praying! Pastor & Mrs. Bruce Thompson and church family were a blessing.



We are beyond thankful for how God has cared for us. He has blessed us with safe travels, with warm welcomes, and with met needs. Thank you for your part in that blessing, that of praying for us. Your prayers are invaluable for the ministry.

This year, we have started to visit area churches on our non-travelling weekends. We are also trying to touch base with churches that are close on Wednesdays. It has been nice to meet pastors and new church families, as well as to visit those whom we have already met.

Just a "for fun" note:

Stephen is in the process of setting up a web page for our family. It will have information regarding our family, ministry, and deputation. We will let you know when it is up and ready for you to view.

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As you pray:

PRAISE:

Computer repaired at no cost to us, other than time.

Van repairs completed, and safety on the roads.

Rose and Doug were able to visit for a week each.

PRAYER:

Upcoming meetings:

February 24	Holmen Baptist Church, Holmen, WI
March 3	Liberty Baptist Church, Antigo, WI
March 10	First Baptist Church, Plainfield, WI
March 17	First Baptist Church, Barron, WI
March 24	Temple Baptist Church, Charles City, IA

Wisdom in continued scheduling of meetings

Support (individual and church)

Rose as she seeks a job and housing in South Carolina

(She is doing this while still living in CT as a nanny. Her present situation is not ideal, so please pray that she will find the necessary job and housing to be able to transition in the next few months.)

Thank you for standing with us in prayer,

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