

January 2024

To all our dear Friends and Supporters,

Happy New Year! What an exciting moment in time to be serving our Savior! The time of His return is closer than ever (SOON!) and shining His Light against the darkness of this world brings a deep and obvious contrast.

Wendy and I found our schedule somewhat "bleak" during November and December as we find that most churches do not tend to host revivals and conferences during the "holiday season." However, God did bless us with scheduled meetings with our friends at Hope's Point in Weston, WV; Community Baptist in Lexington, NC; and Clover Hill Baptist in Richmond, VA. And what great meetings these were! PTL! With only three meetings in two months, we found our faith being tried. However, GREAT IS HIS FAITHFULNESS!

We began to see God's providential hand in our "sparse" schedule for two reasons. First, we received phone calls from area churches without pastors. Sadly, we are seeing this more and more over our entire country. God allowed us the privilege of not only filling the pulpit but also helping the members of these churches take the necessary steps in finding the pastor God has for them. This was and continues to be a great honor and blessing. Secondly, Wendy needed these months to spend with her mom as she has been struggling with atrial fibrillation (Afib) and has had to be hospitalized twice to shock her heart back into rhythm. Would you please pray for her, Pat Eaton, as she is now scheduled for a pacemaker and cardiac ablation on February 5? We are hoping this will help keep her heart in rhythm. Mom is 80 years old, and we hope to keep her comfortable and happy...and at home with us.

January came and our schedule, once again, is picking up speed. Our annual trip to Missouri to speak at Grace and Truth Baptist Church in Pleasant Hill was a "shot in the arm." Wow! Watching God work in this small, rural church is a privilege and an honor. This was my 8th year to speak at their Missions Conference and Wendy's 6th year to speak at their concurrent Ladies Conference. The theme of these two events was "The Judgment Seat of Christ." While puzzling at first for Wendy and me (not our normal speaking topics,) it was truly from the Lord! We both walked away refreshed and renewed with an exciting perspective on the new year! Thank you, Pastor Brent Blaise, for the opportunity to be a small part of something BIG God is doing in and through your church!

From our last letter until this one, your prayers and support have enabled us to speak to big and small groups 28 times and minister individually (one-on-one) as we disciple others who God brings into our paths. Would you continue to pray for our schedule to fill so that we may bring Hope to the hopeless? And...would you please pray for these individuals to whom we minister that they may seek His face and experience His peace that is so readily available? Additionally, pray for our travels as we head to Ohio, Louisiana, Michigan, and South Carolina in the next few weeks.

Thank you for partnering with us in the ministry,

Ben and Wendy Burks