



The Kennard Family

July/August 2025

Dear Praying Friends,

John 3:30 "He must increase, but I must decrease."

It is our desire as your representatives and fellow laborers in Meriden for Christ to increase. We count it a privilege to serve Him and labor for Him.

The months of July and August have been a time of encouragement and incremental growth for our church. In July, we had one of our faithful members approach me about her baptism. She was prodded in her spirit to do a self-examination of her baptism and realized that the baptism she was clinging to was done only because she was trying to encourage a family member in getting baptized and that she had never actually obeyed Christ. The last Sunday in July she followed Christ in true believer's baptism.

In our last letter we mentioned a young man (Alex) who had just started attending services, he has now begun discipleship with me. He was saved and baptized prior to finding us, but has never been personally discipled. We have been meeting every week and he continues to grow in bible knowledge and faithfulness. Just recently he has been asking about different ministry opportunities and even has been out on our church door-to-door outreach efforts. We have been encouraged to see his hunger for the truth and passion for the gospel. Please pray with us for Alex as he is single and comes from a background of drug and alcohol usage. He struggles as he has had to distance himself from all the ones he has known as friends and is lonely in his world. He has a burden for each of his friends and has reached out to them with the gospel. He did have a friend respond and she visited a couple services. She has a couple kids and is a single mom. This has created a new opportunity for some of the ladies in our church to minister to her.

In the month of August, we received a request from a lady who has attended our church in the past but hasn't been back for quite a while. She has a sister and brother-in-law in the area who recently left their church because they found out they didn't believe in a pre-tribulation rapture as well as holding a "replacement theology" (the church is the new Israel). This man had a heart attack and was admitted to the hospital in critical care. They found out he needed by-pass surgery, however they also found out he had type-2 diabetes and that was creating a hindrance to the surgery that was needed. This ended up initially giving the man "no hope" as the doctors were saying they couldn't do the surgery, and that the surgery was the only hope he had. We were asked to go by and pray with them as this news was obviously devastating to receive. We agreed and when we got to the hospital and were able to visit with this couple (his name is Andy, and his wife's name is Debbie) we were encouraged as he was incredibly alert and by the time we got there they had gotten better news and plans were being made to have the surgery. The following Sunday Debbie attended our morning service with her sister and told me after the service that she and Andy had talked after we left the hospital visit and were hoping to attend more regularly and even would like to explore the options in joining. Since then, Andy had the surgery and was able to come home a few days later. Praise the Lord for His incredible provision and guidance in this family's life.

We have also been encouraged as we have had two people ask about joining Cottonwood. We are making plans to meet with them and will be holding our new membership classes to help them in this step. Thank you for taking the time read and invest in prayer with us

Sincerely,
Andrew, Carrie, Clayton, and Sierra



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