

October 31, 2019

## Monthly Support Report

Dear elders,

Greetings! Get ready to turn your clocks back for the extra hour of sleep you lost a few months ago. I pray and trust that all is well with you, your families, and the good congregation there. We're doing good. Busy as per usual, but good. We just had our first snow accumulation of the Fall of 2019 yesterday. And now today it's gone. So, one day it's snowing the sleeting, and the very next day the sun is out, and the temperature is headed back up toward 50-degrees. What a wild 48-hours. I'm just thankful that the temperatures are headed back up. I'm not finished with fall yet. Although for awhile there the weather wasn't looking like fall.

The work here continues to go in a very positive direction. We've had a visitor who has been attending now for quite a few weeks who is beginning to get a lot friendlier and more open with a few of us. She went out to lunch with us just this past week and we had a very pleasant conversation and an enjoyable time. She's a member of the Lord's church and has been for quite some time, and she has faithfully been at all of the services since the day she started attending with us. As time goes on, I hope to find out more. But, for now we'll continue to welcome her and be patient with her. It's good to have her with us. Quite a few of our members are beginning to warm up to her and make her feel very comfortable. That's a very positive thing I can say about the congregation here. They have a very friendly way about them that makes people who visit feel very at ease and welcome. So, I give them credit for being a great help in helping bring her along and making her feel welcome. The congregation here is great to do that with all of the visitors. I'm so grateful for their help and for their genuine concern for people.

It is so nice to have 14-young-people sitting on the front 2-pews, and taking notes. And on any given Sunday they almost form a line, wanting to share their notes with me. They are actually great note takers. In recent weeks I've started putting something special in each lesson that they young people are supposed to look for and write down. Although they are already paying great attention, they are really intent on hearing and or seeing that special point that's just for them. They're pretty sharp. They haven't missed it yet. There were a couple of times I thought I may have made it too difficult for

them to pick up on it. But, to my surprise, all of them got it. I didn't try to make it that difficult. And apparently it wasn't that difficult after all.

We have experienced some very positive growth in recent months. We have grown by about 18. That number would include counting the children. And, the growth that we've had has been very positive. It appears as if all of the members will be positive additions and helpful in the work here. We have a lot of work to do, and it appears as though we have a membership willing and ready to do the work. And God keeps sending precious souls our way for us to work with and help. We continue to pray for Open Doors and occasionally God sends someone to us. This only makes us pray harder knowing that there are others who need a family of baptized believers to belong to where they can feel as though they belong. That's the kind of family of God in this place that we're trying to become and be.

Our Sunday morning adult Bible Class is getting ready to take us on a journey into Jesus' Galilean Ministry. We'll discuss Jesus' feeding of the 4,000; His Transfiguration; the Claims of Jesus and, the Evidence for those Claims. I'm really excited to get involved in this study and get it going. The passages are great! The Bible Class always comes prepared and their class participation is really good. While good class participation really slows us down, it sure makes for a very rich and rewarding class. We've tried to be a little more structured and do 13-week Bible Classes and cover the material during that length of time. But it just hasn't worked for us. And that's not such a bad thing. Our Bible Classes are very enjoyable and very rich. Plus, since we don't have a class for our College students, this gives me the opportunity to interject additional material into our studies that will help them. Kind of like first principle material.

We are still attempting to develop additional teachers in the adult Bible Class as well as the other two classes. That's coming along really well. I really like what I've seen in the two younger men who have stepped in and taken a section of the Bible studies we've been using on Sunday morning. I enjoy sitting in on their classes and helping during the class and even offering some useful tips for them after class. They quickly learned that teachers of Bible Classes have to work much harder in preparation than the students do, which is for their good. They've really surprised me in a very good way.

I'll close with that news about our Bible Classes. It's all very positive news at this point. I do however want to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude for your continued support. For your financial support and for your prayers on our behalf. Thank you! We're trying our best to bring glory to God and spread the news about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Thank you so much for everything that you do in our behalf. Your prayers are greatly appreciated. I hope every member of the family of God there knows how much I appreciate and covet their individual prayers.

God bless.

Randy