

Dear Brethren,

It is hard to believe that another month has already passed. It seems that the days just fly by!

We've had some nice spring weather here in Montana. The spring wildflowers are in bloom, and the snow on the top of the closest mountains (the Bridgers) is about melted. We've even had some days approaching 90 degrees. After a long winter, the kids have really enjoyed getting outside more, and being able to play with some of the neighbor kids. The days went from being very short, to very long...and it seemed to happen almost overnight!

Justin and I continue to stay busy with the work. I finally finished writing some class material that I was working on, getting it ready for our Adult Bible study. We were able to finish up our study on the gospel of Mark, and so we started the new study on the Life and Journeys of the apostle Paul yesterday. I have both of these study books available on our website, so you are welcome to go there and check it out (<http://gallatinvalleycoc.com/index.php/resources/bible-studies>). We also have been able to get back to our study on Divine Authority at the local library. That is the study that we try to broadcast through our telecommunication program. We are hoping to keep a door open for communication with the local institutional preacher, and hopefully make some progress on our study in the area of Authority with him.

The family that travels about 150 miles one way to meet with us Sunday has started joining us via webcam and the telecommunication program we use on Wednesday evenings. There is simply no way that they can make it to Bozeman on Wednesday evenings, so this has worked out well for them to join our bible study. We have also had a lady that we know in Morgantown, WV, who is unable to get out of her house because she has developed severe allergies over the last few years. We thought she might like to join in with us since she is not able to meet with the local congregation there any more. With the time difference, it is quite late for her by the time we wrap up our bible study, but it has seemed to be an encouragement to her, as it is to us as well. I believe there is a lot of possibilities that are available to us via improved technology. I am always looking for ways to use what is available to help with the work.

With the summer months coming upon us, we have started seeing a few visitors that are vacationing in the area. Though our intent for the church here was never to just be a convenience of vacationers, it is encouraging to us to have the visitors from time to time. I have also noticed a significant amount of traffic to our website from people who are visiting from sites such as findthechurch.com, where we have listed our information. I'm pretty sure many of these are folks who are planning to visit the area, and are looking for congregations to meet with. We are glad that we are close enough to places like Yellowstone to provide a sound congregation for these travelers to visit with!

We continue to have a lot of discussions with folks in the community in what I think of as “informal settings”. That is, there are a lot of folks who are willing to talk at opportunities of chance meetings. We are still finding it very challenging to convert those informal discussions into more substantial studies. We are, however, seeing some increase in folks who are following our social media outlets, which gives us some confidence that people are at least seeing some of our materials. We continue to be hopeful that these types of contacts will develop into more solid contacts. For that reason, we intend to spend some time, effort and advertising budget on these social media outlets, targeting those who are close to our area. We are also exploring some other advertising avenues that we hope will be productive.

In our assemblies on Sundays, Justin and I have both been working on a series of sermons. Justin has been preaching a series on 1 Corinthians, and I have been working on a series from Philippians. Both of these have been, I hope, encouraging to all of the brethren here. Both series are also available on the website. We had a pleasant surprise last Sunday, as a friend of ours, Joe Olson, who works near Huntington, WV, and had been a part of our work there for the last 3 or 4 years, visited with his wife, Ramona. Joe had preached in the area of Athens, AL, for many years before moving up to eastern Kentucky to take a job at a university there. Joe preached for us, and presented a good lesson on How We Think. It was really good to see the Olsons, and visit with them for a while before they resumed their journeys through the North West.

We are planning to be traveling for a while the last couple weeks of June. We take our kids to a summer camp in Alabama, which we hope to be able to keep doing, as it is a good opportunity for our kids to be with other Christians for the week. They are very isolated here, and though the technology available helps them to stay “connected”, we believe it is very important for them to have the opportunity to be rejuvenated by being with their friends from good Christian families. I am hopeful that we will have opportunity to visit with at least a couple of the churches that support us while we are in Alabama as well.

I pray you all are doing well, and that the work continues to prosper there! Please continue to keep our work in your prayers as well. As always, let me know if you have any questions!

In Him,

Kris Brewer