

THE *romans*

Serving at Bible Baptist Church of Elk River, MN | www.bible-baptistchurch.org | 763.486.8363

Well, I'll begin by stating the obvious: we have an updated newsletter format. I really like what we can do with our *Nuntio* publication, but this new layout is conducive to providing more frequent updates. Substance trumps style . . . for now (though I think our new design has a handsome style to it).

Ministry

Dallas Putnam, Director of Building Ministries at Continental Baptist Missions, spent the weekend of April 12 and 13 with us. Dallas and I visited several potential building sites, he met with me and the deacons and their wives on Saturday evening, and gave a presentation to the church on Sunday afternoon about what we should consider and some helpful steps to be thinking about as a church. The church voted unanimously to apply for building support through CBM the following week during our quarterly business meeting. We are excited about the prospect of building and realize it is many years in the making.

We continue to see visitors come through and we are connecting with them. I am preaching a brief series titled: "The Exceptional Church" from selected passages in Ephesians. This series presents the centrality of the Church in this dispensation and sets forth the responsibility of every member in the body to have an active role in building the body up (cf. Ephesians 4; 1 Corinthians 12).

A recent request brought the issue of divorce and remarriage to the forefront of my thinking. I advised the requestor that I could not, in good conscience, officiate at the ceremony. It reminded me about the importance of 1) examining the Scriptures to have a sound, supportable, exegetical conclusion to drive my practice and 2) wrestling with how we can minister to numerous couples who are in similar, complex straits in our churches. May we love and minister to people with a clear conscience and compassionate hearts.

Deputation

We mentioned that we went out to Wakefield, MI to be with Pastor Tom Bauder some weeks back. Calvary Baptist Church has taken us on for monthly support beginning in April. What a joy! We continue to make contacts and hope that they will bear fruit. My plan is to conclude my tenure at Express Scripts in July. It will certainly stretch us to transition from the financial stability corporate America provides, but we have confidence in our God to provide for us through His people in ways we do not ask or think.

Family

Unfortunately, Julie and I have both been struggling with some back pain. I don't know that there is ever good timing for injuries such as these to occur because life moves, well, at the speed of life. However, we are hoping that the Lord will grant us a prompt recovery to continue to fulfill our family and ministry obligations.

From our hearts, thank you for your interest in us and our ministry.

SENDING CHURCH

Fourth Baptist Church
900 Forestview Lane
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MISSION AGENCY

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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PETITIONS

- Numerical, conversion growth for our church.
- Spiritual growth for our church.
- Measurable fruit from Reaching *Our* Jerusalem.
- God's financial provision for our family as we transition from secular employment to full-time ministry.

PRAISES

- The support of our CBM family.
- The financial and prayer support from Calvary Baptist in Wakefield.
- Our sending church, Fourth Baptist, has a new Sr. Pastor.
- Visitors to our church.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Bill and Terri Jenkin will be with us on June 7-8 for a church planting/home missions emphasis.

CURRENT SUPPORT LEVEL

38%

*PLEASE CONSIDER
PARTNERING WITH US
FINANCIALLY AND
PRAYERFULLY FOR
CHURCH PLANTING IN
NORTH AMERICA.*