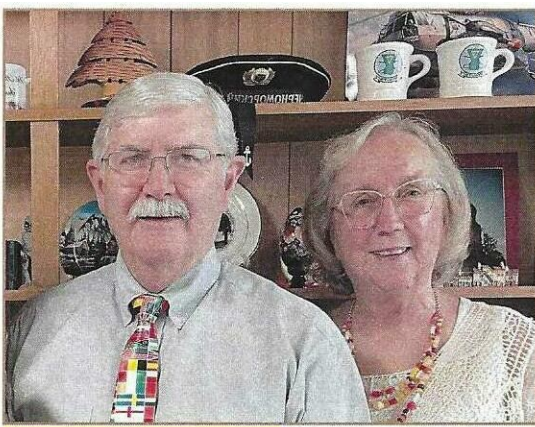


Bob & Judy Van Sant



Luke 10:2

Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.



Last week I was asked to pray at the 10th anniversary of a local coffee shop.



Dear Praying Friends,

October 2, 2024

Judy and I love Autumn. The days are cooler and the evenings are crisp. Living in rural Iowa, everywhere we go we see farmers busy harvesting their crops with mostly John Deere tractors (Iowa - the home of John Deere). The time of seeding, cultivating, weeding and watering is over and now they are reaping the results of their labor. And soon the harvest will be finished. The gospel is the message, the acceptance or rejection of the gospel, and the vast numbers of people who have not heard weighs heavy on our hearts.

This summer our church held a Backyard Bible Club. It was the first time in over 13 years that this church has had a VBS type ministry. Although we advertised, prepared, and extra workers from South Charlotte Baptist Church in North Carolina came to help, the attendance was disappointing. Though poorly attended, all of our church folks were involved. That was a blessing! God is the Lord of the harvest and we believe much was accomplished for His Glory.

September was "Missions' Month." My goal is to double the number of missionaries the church supports. Three potential candidates came to present their field with a fourth one just returning from a Mission Trip to Peru. On the final week, we had a Church Campout. Five families brought their campers (others just came for the activities). The three days were filled with singing around the campfire, devotions and Christian fellowship. We had a great time - though Judy came down with Bronchitis from all the outdoor festivities. She is doing better with antibiotics.



A report from Pastor Slava at Simferopol Baptist Church: In previous letters, we have shown pictures of the deaf church and Pastor Slava. Recently, I asked him for a picture of the hearing church that meets in the afternoon. This picture shows some of the fellowship in the courtyard under the grapevines. The churches are struggling as the battle continues in that area.

ASL OUTREACH: This fall, Judy is teaching three ASL Classes. She is teaching Beginning ASL at two home-schoolers associations (Hardin County & Marshal County). Between the children and some very active parents, there are over 40 students in these classes.



Ten students from last year's class are attending an Intermediate ASL class at our church. They are excited about the open doors they have found to use ASL. Judy focuses on Christian related words as some of these students do not attend church. The advanced class also has to memorize Bible verses in Sign Language.

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