



Bellevue

BAPTIST CHURCH

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Dear Prayer Partner,

This is Joel Creekmore, church planter in Bellevue, Washington. It has been quite a while since my last update. To be honest, some of the little things have fallen by the wayside as I prioritize what must happen week to week.

Over the last 3-4 months we have had 4 baptisms with one more scheduled for next week. We are grateful for the Lord bringing new members to Bellevue Baptist Church and being used as they grow in Christ. We have also lost 7 members over the last 6 months due to various reasons. Some have moved away to family or new jobs. Others have fallen out of church completely. It is hard losing people, but I am thankful that God continues to bring others to the church. Our current membership sits at 35 with 13 family units. Our average Sunday morning attendance is just over that.

We have seen a number of visitors lately with visitors most weeks. Some have continued to come, and I am meeting with one couple to discuss membership this weekend. One visitor, Ernie, came back last Sunday. He had attended several times and I had gone out for coffee with him when he did, but that was three years ago. Imagine my surprise when I saw Ernie walk through the doors with his kids. It was a great reminder to just be faithful regardless of what appears to be happening in people's lives and allow the Lord to work. He said he will be back this Sunday and I am excited about the opportunity to minister to him and his kids.

I continue to work part time doing financial systems consulting. This has been a financial blessing for us, but it is also hard to manage the needs of church, family, and secular job. I ask that you pray for me to make wise decisions, be able to manage my time, and prioritize according to the Lord's will appropriately.

Just after Christmas our youngest son joined the Air Force and is currently at Basic Military Training in San Antonio. I would also ask that you pray for him to stay grounded in his faith and walk with the Lord especially now that he is out of the house and in a very different environment. I also ask for prayer for the last two of our kids that are at home. Anna will be graduating this year and I pray for wisdom, discernment, and faith in the Lord as she makes life decisions. Abby is doing well in school and personally, but I also ask for prayer that she would continue to grow in her relationship with Christ.

The major prayer requests for the church would be growth, finances, and our meeting place. Our lease expires in a year and a half, and it looks like we will be unable to renew. That means that by the end of this year we will need to start looking for a new location. This will require the hand of God and so I ask that you pray with us even now as we look forward to how he will provide.

Thanks for sticking with us and for your prayers and financial support as we endeavor to serve the Lord here in Bellevue. God bless.

In Christ,

Joel Creekmore