



## February 2025

Hello Friends!

Thank you for faithfully investing in the work of the Lord by being a fellow-helper in the process of planting of Ironwood Baptist Church in Leawood, Kansas! Our sincerest desire is to glorify the LORD and lead people to worship HIM! This ministry could not be sustained without the graciousness of the Lord through the generosity of you all who faithfully pray and give sacrificially.

The Lord blessed this ministry with a family a couple of years ago to minister to. The family came with struggles in their personal lives as well as spiritually. Through a series of events, the father (Jamie') of the family (Iranian biochemist) came to know Christ as his Saviour and was baptized in a lakeside service we held in May 2023. One of his sons (Daniel) professed accepting Christ as his Saviour in September of 2023. We praise the Lord for what He is doing within the family! \*Also, the youngest daughter (13) accepted Christ as her Saviour after the preaching of God's Word on a Sunday morning service. It was the first Sunday of February that I had the privilege to baptize her! She invited her family to witness the baptism. Please pray for this family, specifically, the mother and eldest daughter and son. The mother has a masters in anthropology and "religious experiences in the Lutheran and Presbyterian churches - she has the knowledge of GOD and demonstrates "the works" based faith however she chooses to hold to tradition and experiences rather than surrendering to the Lord and humbly coming to Him in repentance accepting the grace of Jesus Christ. The eldest daughter (in her early 20's) has a troublesome history with the family and has only claimed to experiencing a "Jesus moment" while hiking. Your prayers are greatly appreciated! In His timing the LORD will receive His glory!

Additionally, a young man from India, effectually known as D.P. (Gautham) who I had the humbling privilege to lead to the Lord was baptized on the third week of February! D.P. recently completed his masters in Information Technology and came from a Hindu background. He has been attending services at 1-2 times each week for the last year and a half. It was during a one-on-one Bible study did D.P. see the need for the Saviour. We praise the Lord for His working in D.P.'s heart and making this faith step! Thank you for praying for him!

As some of you may recognize, some of the Kansas City Chiefs football team lives in Leawood. This month was the second time we hosted a Super Bowl fellowship - after our regularly scheduled Sunday evening service. Although the game did not turn out the way that some of the church family had hoped, it did provide for an opportunity for fellowship in building the needed unity.

Our family was given the privilege to attend the Global Independent Baptist Fellowship meeting in Tampa, FL. With the fellowship's emphasis on church planting, many church families made it possible to attend for which we are very grateful! The time invested, although short, was a big blessing to our family and to the church family as they had personally mentioned.

Mrs. Melissa and I were able to minister to a young couple during our time together at a couples retreat in Branson, MO. We have been discipling them and I had the privilege to marry them last year. It was the first marriage retreat for this couple, of which they truly enjoyed and needed upon their own admission. We especially want to thank the Living United ministry of United Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Steve Brudnak. He and his wife, Mrs. Melissa, and the church family demonstrated great generosity for which we are very grateful! We could not have effectively ministered to our church family without their investment. Thank you!

Praise the Lord for our children and their willingness to serve the families in the church. The church family consist mostly of “baby” Christians learning how to be faithful. Within this dynamic, our children continue to graciously serve and willingly learn how to serve effectively. We are very grateful for willing servants to help teach the kids how to play the piano, guitar, violin and lead congregational singing. They continue to learn new “special” songs to sing together or play instrumental specials. Even though they are children, we do not force them to do these extras, they willingly desire to be a blessing and that is a BIGGER blessing to their parents and their church family!

The Lord provided another opportunity to be involved with a church family’s mission conference, this one in Helena, MT. The pastor invited me to preach six times. It was a wonderful yet humbling experience! The church family concluded with a faith promise offering that glorified the Lord! Our family loves the Liberty Baptist Church family! We are grateful for Pastor and Mrs. McCurdy and we look forward to our next time together!

The faithfulness of your prayers and support are paying heavenly dividends that we share together in this ministry! The work of Lord is enabled by His faithful servants willingly giving of themselves first and then giving of what God has already provided. Our hearts desire is that fruit abounds to your account! Let us know how we can pray for you! May the Lord continue to strengthen & bless you!

PRAYER Requests:

- \* \* ***Souls saved*** in Leawood, KS and in the surrounding cities of Overland Park, Prairie Village, and Kansas City, MO!
- \* Our family is stretched out and we have been asking God to provide families to come and serve alongside us!
- Discipleship ministry - learning to be faithful, spiritual growth, developing a personal relationship with Jesus Christ!
  - *Truw and Jamie, Ricky, Tim, Annie, and Olivia.*

Continue to ***Pray for***:

- The church family’s willingness to evangelize the lost.
- One of our (big) needs: A church facility/location we can grow into; we need a more visible location!

(Sincerely) “...***pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest.***” *Luke 10:2*

Grateful In His Service, Your Friends,

*Keith & Melissa Drinkard and Kayelynn, Keith, Grace, and Lily*

Independent Baptist Church Planting Missionary: Johnson County - Kansas City - Leawood, Kansas  
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*I Corinthians 15: 57-58, “...victory through our Lord Jesus Christ always abounding in the work of the Lord.”*

Home/Sending Church: *South Knollwood Baptist Church - Pastor Jeremiah Metsinger - (785)266-6837*

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