



MARK AND DIANE DUPONT

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

BEAVER UTAH



February 2024

Dear Friends,

The new year is here, and we are going full speed ahead. Here is the latest from Beaver.

Personal



We need to begin with a change in our lives. As many of you recall, Mark's dad (Grampy) lived with us for the last 9 years. On Dec 9, he fell and fractured his pelvis. With his breathing issues and inability to move around, he was unable to recover from this. On December 24, at 91, he passed away. The first week he tried to get better, but his lungs just would not cooperate. We were blessed to be able to take care of him in our in-law apt up until the time of his passing. It was only the last few months of his life that he began to be open to what the Bible says of true salvation. He had just come to the place of understanding that Jesus is able to forgive all sin. We are not positive that he placed saving faith in Christ, but we have a glimmer of hope that we will see him again. Our daughter, Ruth, was able to come visit Grampy after his fall.

Church

Mark was able to preach Christmas Eve morning, and then we were taken up with the last moments of caring for Grampy. Diane had stayed home to be with him, and at that point we thought he had a few more days. Little did we know that he would pass away only a couple of hours after the morning service. We had already prepared our church for the possibility of his passing and the people were able to take up the slack and continue with our traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight service.

Our other ministries continue. Our Afterschool Bible Club has about a dozen children attending. Our teen Bible study is also continuing. Last year, Mark began a beginning Greek class. With the busyness of the holidays and some personal demands on some of our students, we have taken a break from the class since around Christmas. We are supposed to start up again soon. We will see how many return.

We just had our Valentine's banquet with Pastor Doug Hounshell as our speaker. We are thankful for his years serving the Lord in Utah. We had a sweet time, and we believe our couples were encouraged. This coming Saturday, we host a youth rally with a sledding event. Mark will be preaching to the teens about the subject of why teens often stop attending church when they reach adulthood.

We are looking forward to our spring ministries. The highlight will be a parenting conference we will be hosting at the end of April with Pastor Matt Murphree and his wife, Karlene. We are hoping we can reach many that have struggled with raising their families following the world's philosophy. We have contact with a non-Christian homeschool group and we hope to see some attendees from this connection.

Of late, we have had several local people interested in visiting the church. There is one young couple who have been attending for the last two months and seem to be hungry for the Word. Mark is supposed to start an in-home Bible study with them in a couple of weeks. We have also had a few inquiries over the phone asking about our services. One of these came last night to our services and said they plan to continue to attend. Please pray as we seek to follow up on these contacts.

Radio

We have been further encouraged by our contact with the new group of radio engineers. Mark enumerated 4 concerns about our present set up for our station. As they responded, they believe they can take care of each one of these. If everything can go according to their plan, we will be increasing our power from 100 watts to 400 watts. This should greatly improve our quality and possibly our coverage area.

AT A GLANCE

Praises

- Good spirit for Christmas Services
- Visitors desiring to continue attending
- God's grace during Mark's dad's passing

Prayer Requests

- Salvation of new attendees
- Growth of Bible Club
- Upcoming parenting conference
- KEZB improvements

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Family

Rather than asking each of our kids with their families to come out for Grampy's funeral, we decided to go visit each of them and have a time of remembering him in that way. We are about to leave for a two-week trip and seek to decompress from all the recent demands. We are looking forward to seeing the loved ones that we miss so much.

Thanks so much for your faithful prayers,

Mark & Diane Dupont