

**Featured Missionary**  
**Dan & Vicki Benton, CBM, Waterbury CT**

*Our Church*

Berean Baptist Church continues to make slow, but steady, progress. At our Annual Meeting last Sunday the 2012 Budget was approved, and a new Deacon was added. Both votes were unanimous.

*Our Family*

We are thankful for our family, each of our children worship and serve the Lord faithfully. They are also employed, Katie at Costco, Emily at Wells Fargo Bank and Jay at Sears. Vicki's Mom is doing great as well. She has been visiting family in MD, but will return home next week. As for Vicki and I, we keep on going. Between her back pain and my knee pain we make a great pair sometimes, but God is good.

*Our Friends*

We are thankful for each of you. We appreciate your prayers, emails, notes and financial support more than words can say. We are able to keep serving here on the front lines of Church Planting because of that support and encouragement.

**Larry & Pat Groat, BMM Retired**

Having retired from BMM Dec. 31, 2010, we began our new responsibilities labeled "Outreach Ministry" with Northland Baptist, our home church, on Jan. 1, 2011. This has been an enjoyable year renewing acquaintances with many in our home church, and getting to know the others. During the year we have visited in many homes, had people at our home and shared time with others in the hospital, rehab centers, nursing homes and attended a number of funerals.

**Pat** helps as pianist at Northland for special music. Together we have done music this fall on Sunday evenings. She has 8 piano students this year. We worked together helping in VBS and Trunk or Treat.

**Larry** has directed the follow up of many visitors.

**Praise God** that all our kids and grandkids are walking with the Lord. What a joy to see them grow spiritually, making God-honoring decisions.

**Pray for us** as we enter 2012 ministering at Northland, especially since the church is without a pastor.

**Pray for us** as we reach out to our neighbors and friends who are ill.

**Steve & Sue Mayo, ABWE, Australia**

As we reflect on God's goodness in this Christmas letter, we begin with the newest member of our family, Caleb Jordan Mayo, born 30 November to Sean and Vanessa. Our oldest son, Seth, and his wife, Ellen, continue to assist us at our church plant. Shannon had two big developments in 2011. She completed her Bachelors degree and began dating the pastor's son from one of our sister churches. Shelby enjoyed her first year of studies at the University of Sydney as well as tutoring 5 violin students. Sue and Steve experienced the Lord's encouragement through some difficult times. In spite of difficulty the students at the Christmas Assembly at Bennett Road School stayed focused and listened well to the gospel.



Prayer Prompter

December 21, 2011

**Pastor Bill Abernathy**

- . Praise the Lord for the great offering of praise by our musicians last Sunday.
- . Praise the Lord that we can enjoy some time with all our children this Christmas.
- . Pray for a good time of vacation after Christmas.
- . Pray for Kristie as she reports in Columbus on 1/8 and here on 1/15.
- . Pray for Josh & Michelle and Ella as they transition to life in Ohio.
- . Pray for a good break for Caleb.
- . Pray for my mom as she battles shingles.
- . Pray for our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.
- . Pray for our neighbor, Amy, battling cancer (in chemo).

**Pastor Steve Nichols**

- . Pray for Daniel and Cynthia and the Wilkes-Barre, PA, Church planting team. Daniel continues to travel and preach, raising support for the ministry. Updates can be found at [www.credoindeum.com](http://www.credoindeum.com).
- . The entire team [total of five] will be having a planning retreat next week.
- . Praise the Lord for our orchestra, choirs and musicians, video and sound techs in the wonderful presentations of our Berean Christmas Concert last Sunday!

**Pastor Chuck Pausley**

- . Be praying for the High School weekly in-depth Bible Studies.
- . Pray for Emily's brother and his wife, they are raising support to go to South Africa.
- . Pray for Emily's Dad's health.

**Pastor Will Davis**

- . Pray for the ministry of Interpas for churches without pastors.

**Amy Brown**

- . Pray for a restful time while on vacation with my family.
- . Pray for the emotional well-being of those struggling during this holiday season.

**Pray for the Needs of our World, Nation, State, and Cities**

- . Pray for the new leadership of N. Korea to lead the nation to freedom
- . Pray for those in the Philippines impacted by the storms
- . Pray for Iranian Pastor Youdef Nadarkhani & all of our persecuted brothers and sisters around the world
- . Pray for our servicemen and women, our missionaries and others away from home & family during this season
- . Pray that the uncertainty of the world's economy will cause people to turn to Christ
- . Pray for stability in Egypt and other parts of the Middle East
- . Pray for wisdom for our Governor and state leaders as they deal with economic needs of our state
- . Pray for a revival among God's people that spreads to others
- . Pray for the unrest in Papua, New Guinea

**NOTE: The Prayer Prompter is a public document that may be accessed on the internet.**

### Pray for the Sick & Hospitalized

- Mike Perrine** having knee surgery December 27.
- Marsha Postma** having surgery December 27.
- Gary & Denise Robert's daughter, **Sarah Mark**, is expecting twins and is having complications. Please pray for mom and babies, for safety, health, and peace of mind.
- Dean Short** recovering from open heart surgery at home.
- Deb Dehart** is recovering from back surgery.
- Rip Allen** in Bronson Hospital.
- Pete Foster**, Marty & Chuck's father, struggling with cancer.
- Melanie Benefiel's sister-in-law, **Perri Barber**, has a reoccurrence of her cancer, radiation treatments have been started.
- Joyce Hampton** is in the VA Hospital in Battle Creek.
- Duane Hampton** is having knee surgery.
- Donn Stokes** having trouble with his shoulder, waiting for results from tests.
- Sheri Stiger, Nancy Christensen & Rip Allen** undergoing chemo therapy.
- Please pray for the following people with ongoing health issues: Wally Hines, Virginia Miller, Gary Marcy & Reva Williams, Duane & Joyce Hampton, Francis Conner, Paul & Leola Johnson, Hal & Winnie Pape, Angie Foster, Faye Leutzinger, Joyce Boubelik, Larry Sharp's daughter Sheri Puett, Jason Herlein, Nancy Christensen, Ana Campbell, Wayne Gerber, Jan Atwood, Sarah Ohland, Adrian Wierengo**

### Pray for Other Needs

- Valentina Velkov's mother, **Tatyana**, had interview for a green card. Working on more paperwork.
- Joel Roberts** in Afghanistan.
- The Blakleys' son** serving in Afghanistan
- Tom & Pat Taylor's granddaughter, Faith**, teaching English in S. Korea and **grandson, Nick**, serving in the Navy
- Pray for the salvation of Carma Huitt's cousin, **Becky**
- People looking for work: **Sandra Evans, Lynne Potter, Bobby Hicks** (Gary & Kathy Pross' son-in-law), **ToniAnn Barnes, Denese Jacobs, Ross Martello, Valentina Velkov, Stephen Webb**

### Praise:

- Praise the Lord for the great **Christmas Musical Program!**

### Coming Events:

DEC	24	Christmas Eve Service, 6:00 pm
	25	Christmas Day, 10:30 am <b>NO</b> Sun. School, AM service at 10:30 am, <b>NO</b> Children's Church for 2's-5th grade, <b>NO</b> PM Service
	26	Office Closed
	28	<b>NO</b> Wednesday Services
JAN	1	<b>NO</b> Sun. School, AM service at 10:30 am, <b>NO</b> Children's Church for 2's-5th grade, <b>NO</b> PM Service
	2	Office Closed
	4	<b>NO</b> Wednesday Services
	8	Blood Pressure Screening AM Communion Split Men's and Women's Evening Service
	10	Joyful Mom

### **Gil & Denise Thomas, ABWE, Good Soil**

Our trip to Haiti was from November 1-14. During the first week we taught the Good Soil Seminar to lay pastors. It was such a joy to see their faces when they received a copy of "The Story of Hope" in their own language.

During the second week the rest of our ABWE team that developed the new Children's curriculum over the last year, joined us. We had a great time modeling and training the 70 Sunday School teachers how to teach Bible lessons.

Toward the end of our trip, we met people at a seminary and made other contacts that can help us train others and spread hope throughout the island.

In May we will be teaching a similar seminar that we are calling Good Soil for Children's Workers in Harrisburg, PA. Contacts are already made for translation and teaching of the same in Brazil in the late summer.

Thanks for praying for our trip to Haiti! Please pray that these new opportunities develop for God's glory and that we will be effective in training teachers of children to evangelize and disciple.

### **Jack & Marilyn Slough, ABWE Retired**

Our hearts are encouraged by what the Lord is doing at Calvary Baptist Church. It is so exciting to see new believers grow in their faith and walk with the Lord. We feel so blessed to be privileged to be a part of that continuing process.

This week our youth "shop" in our Bible Bucks store with the points they've earned since August. Many of them will be buying Christmas gifts for family members. It warms our hearts to see them spending their points on others rather than themselves.

We also continue to make some improvements in our facilities as money permits. One of the neighbors commented about how nice the place was starting to look. We want to be a good testimony to our community in the way we care for the facilities that God has provided.

We continue to care for Jack's mom who will be 97 in March. We are so thankful for this opportunity to provide for her needs after so many years of little contact when we lived overseas.

Our exciting news is that Aaron and Julie are expecting number four sometime in June. This will be grandchild number eleven for us.

As we look back over the year, we are so very thankful for all of you who continue to support us with your prayers and money. What a joy it has been to partner with you in spreading the gospel of our Savior and seeing so many answers to prayers. Thank you for your faithfulness to us and the Lord.

### **Bill & Sue Spoelhof, ABWE, retired**

Continue to pray with us during this time of transition as we seek God's direction for our future and where we will live and serve. There have already been several offers in different types of ministry.

Thank you for your prayer and financial support as we continue to serve. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you a blessed Christmas at this special time of celebrating the coming of our Savior.

### **Louise Barnard, AWBE, retired**

I'm scheduled to teach Adult Education in Myanmar in January. I am working on a visa, please pray for success.

Please pray for the political unrest in Papua, New Guinea.

My fears about carving out my own ministry have been answered in amazing ways. Faith never wavered; contentment and acceptance has predominated; but I realized that the steady stream of JOY I've enjoyed all my life is not yet restored to me. So my prayer for this New Year is from Psalm 51:12: "Restore to me the JOY of your salvation..."