

# C.P.A. Beacon

Issue 16

**Church Planters to America**

Spring 2006

## **Tenth Anniversary of C.P.A. 1996-2006**



**C.P.A. Headquarters**

In the scope of eternity 10 years is like a minuscule speck of sand on a large beach. Not noticed by most people but part of the big picture. Church Planters to America is celebrating its first ten years of ministry in 2006.

It was in July 1996 that C.P.A. was organized and incorporated. Under the leadership of Tom and Carol Buckley five other families worked together to bring C.P.A. into existence. The vision of C.P.A. is to establish Bible believing churches in towns where there are none. We do this by opening closed churches, helping struggling churches and starting new churches. In 1999 we began the construction of our headquarters building and completed it by the summer of 2000. God miraculously provided the funds so it was totally paid for upon completion.

During these 10 years C.P.A. has provided missionary pastors for twelve churches, two of which were new churches. Hundreds of people have been saved during these last ten years. We thank the Lord for His watch care over C.P.A. during this time and we move forward with great anticipation for what God is going to do. Pray for men who have a burden for America and a vision for the local church. To all who pray and/or give to the ministry of C.P.A. we say "Thank you". You are vital to the success of this great ministry.



**10 years of Planting Churches**

## FROM THE DIRECTOR



**TOM  
BUCKLEY**

As I reflect back over these past 10 years my heart rejoices as I remember the many who have been saved, the lives changed and the churches that have been started and/or strengthened. These ten years are just the beginning of great things to come.

Recently my wife and I returned from an extensive trip that took us to Florida and Alabama. During this trip, we were able to speak in a number of churches and a Bible college as well as meet with a number of people. It is amazing how many people do not know of the need in churches here in America and that there is a mission, such as C.P.A., that is seeking to resurrect these struggling and dying churches.

Recently a church in Kansas that had asked for our help was closed and sold. Another church here in New York State is also for sale. A church in a small town needs to be the spiritual light of the community and when it is closed the light goes out. In the early years of our ministry Carol and I, along with our two children, had the privilege of opening three closed churches. We saw people who had never gone to church or read the Bible come to Christ. Their lives were changed, their families changed and the whole community changed for good as the church became the center of the community and family life.

I know that things change over the years, but we still need churches that will be the Gospel lighthouse in small town America. Pray with us as we move forward and seek to expand on what God has done in the first ten years. Pray for new families to help us reach these communities for Christ.

## MISSION FAMILY NEWS

Church Planters to America is not just an organization, it is a family made up of people whom God has called to reach small town America with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In this article we want to share what is taking place in the lives of our mission families. . . . **TOM & CAROL BUCKLEY**, mission director, Almond, NY, have been busy traveling to distant places to preach the Word of God and share about the ministry of C.P.A. God has blessed them with good health and safe travel through the years. Pray for men to be called into C.P.A. through their efforts and contacts. Pray for them as they do the planning for the C.P.A. retreat in July. They expect to be busy in May and June helping a former mission church with a building project. . . . **ROB & SUE ANDREAS**, missionary pastor, Olcott, NY, are anticipating growth in their church this year. Several people have come to Christ recently and new families have expressed interest in the church. They will be conducting their first Vacation Bible School this summer since moving to Olcott. The Olcott Bible Church has set a goal of having the church mortgage paid off by the end of 2009. Pray for this to become a reality. Rob and Sue's middle child, Megan, will graduate from high school in June. Pray for her as she plans for the future. . . . **STEVE & DEBBIE COCKERHAM**, missionary pastor, Groveland Station, NY, continue to see new families attend church. When the Cockerhams first arrived in Groveland very few people from the town attended the church. Now more townspeople are becoming part of the ministry. The church is moving toward becoming self-supporting. Pray for Steve as he works with the people to reach this goal. . . . **CHARLES & LINDA EMERSON**, Alfred Station, NY, left Boyds Corners Bible Church at the first of the year. They are helping with the ministry at their home church in Almond. Linda is employed as a counselor in the Hornell School District. Pray for them as they seek the Lord's direction for the future. . . . **MARK & SUE RUGGERIO**, missionary pastor, St. John, ME, have survived another winter in Northern Maine. They are planning this summer's "Adventure in the Valley". The St. John Valley is a Catholic area and parents let their children come to these special programs, but not to church on Sunday. Pray that as children are saved they will be allowed to attend church and Sunday School. Pray for the salvation of their parents. One of their faithful men and deacon died last Christmas. Pray for encouragement for Mark and the church as they fill the gap. . . . **RICHARD & KARIN SCOTT**, missionary candidates, Inman, SC, continue their Bible College education. Richard will be entering his final year in the Fall. They plan to make another trip to New Mexico as they lay the groundwork for a new church in an unreached area. Pray that churches will desire to support them and be a part of this new endeavor. . . . **BRIAN & CHRISTINE THOMPSON**, missionary pastor, Brooks, ME, report that there has been good progress in the ministry of the church. Christine conducts an after school Bible club in the local school and has seen steady growth. At least one youngster has professed faith in Christ. The church is going through the process of updating the Constitution and By-laws. Pray for wisdom for Brian and a good result. In late April the church celebrated the 40th anniversary of the church. Pray that the church will become self-supporting in a couple of years. Pray for Brian's health as he has struggled with some physical difficulties. . . . **Summer is always a busy time for our missionary pastors. Pray for wisdom for each family as they seek to reach the unsaved and lead the church. Pray for our missionary children to grow in the Lord.**

## **MISSIONARY PROFILE: Mark and Sue Ruggerio**

As is the case in many rural areas of our country, few people have heard of St. John, Maine, and even fewer people have ever traveled there. St. John is literally near the end of the road in Northern, Maine. Located just west of Fort Kent it is about 20 miles from the end of the road. In late 2001 Mark and Sue Ruggerio sensed God's calling to move to St. John to become the missionary pastor of the St. John Bible Church. Mark and Sue, along with their two girls, Bethany and Moriah, have labored faithfully since then. A number of people have been saved, improvements have been made to the church and parsonage and the Ruggerios have become an integral part of the community. Because of the French Canadian heritage in the area the task is difficult. Pray for Mark and Sue as they move toward the ultimate goal of seeing the church, one day, become self-supporting. They are in need of additional support at this time. Anyone desiring to be part of their support team should contact us here at mission headquarters. Pray for souls to be saved and for the growth of the St. John Bible Church.



**The Ruggerio Family**



**St. John Bible Church**

## **HELP WANTED!!- Missionary Pastors Needed!**



**Central Maine**



**South Jersey**

All over America there are thousands of churches that need pastors with a burden for souls and a vision for the church. C.P.A. missionaries are men who carry that burden and have that vision. The pictures to the left are two of many churches that have asked us for help. We travel to many places telling of the need and have a great website that very adequately tells about the mission. God has given us a great family of missionaries that labor faithfully in the ministry of church planting. We need people all over our land that will join us in prayer for God to bring us the needed missionary pastors. Please join us in praying for this need. Please drop us a note or email and let us know that you are praying for us. Thank you to all who give and/or pray for Church Planters to America.



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## C.P.A. Missionary Pastor's Retreat, July 17-21

The highlight of each year for Church Planters to America takes place during the third week of July. This is the week that every missionary family and board member family comes to mission headquarters in Almond, NY for the annual C.P.A. missionary Pastor's Retreat. This is a time of fellowship among the mission family which includes great devotional times, messages from the Word of God, and seminars that deal with issues of the day as well as the practical applications in ministry. This year will be extra special as we celebrate 10 years of ministry as a mission.

Enclosed with this issue of the BEACON is our only financial appeal of the year. We are asking churches and individuals to help provide for the travel, food and other expenses to provide this retreat for our mission family. With the cost of gas continuing to rise we trust the Lord to meet the need. Please use the pink response form with your gift. Your gift will be an investment in each of our missionaries and their ministries. We thank you in advance for your help.



C.P.A. Missionary Family



"Then saith he unto His disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into His harvest."

Matthew 9:37, 38



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### REMINDER

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