

C.P.A. Beacon

Issue 50

Church Planters to America

Spring 2023

The Need is Greater Than Ever

As I sit here typing this article, I look out my window and pause to think about the world and its needs. Over the past 35 years since I started church planting, things have changed immensely. Instability in our society works its way down into the core of our families. Our nation has given in to satan's tactics and it seems we have lost our way. But we know how to get back. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life." We need Jesus in our main-stream activities of life and the Bible as our text for change in our world.

Pastors need to preach the Word of God without fear and reservation. We need to teach the basic truths and be on fire for the things of God. We need to proclaim everywhere that everyone needs to repent from their sins and turn to God. We need our sins forgiven and mercy from God the Father. We need Christians that proclaim the name of Christ to firmly stand up and live for Him. We need to tell the world that there is hope and show them the way.

It appears our nation has been hijacked by an immoral media that wishes to throw their filthy and wicked values on everyone. The cultural shift is manifested everywhere. People are in bondage thinking they are free. Wokeness wants to rule the day, but we must stand firm on God's principles and truths. There are many Christians that dabble with the world and compromise God's holy truth to the detriment of their testimony.

The church is a group of people that are called out of this world and entrusted with the manifold grace of God. It is our solemn privilege to serve the King of kings and the Lord of lords. A song writer has a song with this chorus in it, "These are the stones in the foundation, and they were laid many years ago. And on these stones, we built a mighty nation, take them away and down it goes." One of the verses says the following, "When fires of lust are never quenched, Death is the final consequence, Heavens real and hell is hot, when right is right and wrong is not!"

Oh, pray for revival to break forth in our day. We need the righteous to stand for truth and love beyond measure so the world can know Jesus Christ our Savior! We need churches that are reaching beyond their walls to save the lost.

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Titus 2:11-13



From the Director



**Rob
Andreas**

Our nation is in a crucial crossroad in its history. Many of our basic values and moral constraints are being tampered with in our government. I heard a good acronym for the word WOKE. It goes like this, **W**illingly **O**verlooking **K**nown **E**vil. It seems our culture is doing everything possible to destroy our sacred values. Sin is the word God uses to describe man's great problem and greatest need for deliverance.

We need a great awakening not only in our society but in our churches. We need Holy Ghost revival to break out everywhere from our pulpits and our pews. American Christians need to wake up and stand for the truth. We need strong faith and courage from God to fight the good fight before us.

The world in many ways is set up, as the Scriptures say, for the imminent return of Jesus Christ. This hope for all believers is about to happen and we need to be trimming our lamps and going out to meet the Bridegroom!

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14

God is in Control

Associate Director Mark Ruggerio

The theme that God is Sovereign and in control has been a theme that has been repeated for me from God's Word. Of course, as a pastor, it is a theme the congregation has heard in messages recently as well. Isaiah chapter 6 begins with "In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple." It was a time of uncertainty in Israel, their king, their leader died, but we see here in Isaiah's vision that he saw the Lord sitting on the throne. Even in their time of insecurity and change, God was still there over it all and in charge.



Our world, the last few years, has clearly been a time of turmoil, uncertainty, and change. Here at Emmanuel, after the pandemic when things started getting back to "normal," we are ourselves experiencing great change. We just found out that a family that many people have been praying for, (their dad lost his job shortly before Christmas) has found employment. It is, however, in another part of the state and they will be moving in April. Once this occurs, that will make sixteen people from our congregation that have moved for employment reasons in under two years. We are a small congregation, and such change is certainly tumultuous in the life of the church. As we all move forward in our seasons of change, let each of us go forward with the confidence that Isaiah did. God is still on His throne and is sovereignly over all. We may not understand, how He is working but we assuredly know "that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." (Romans 8:28). May the Lord bless you. Thank you for praying for Church Planters to America and our respective congregations!

Portageville Fellowship Hall Going to Get a Face Lift

We are hoping to start some renovations on our fellowship hall this fall. We have been truly blessed on the church building and now it is time to focus on our Fellowship Hall. When we arrived here seven years ago, we knew that hall needed work but so did the church building. So, we put things off until recently when the group from Grace Mission to The World contacted us again.

This group came two years ago, and we were so blessed by what was accomplished by these faithful men. The outside of the building is in dire need of siding. This will cost us a good amount, but we are sure that God will provide as He always has.

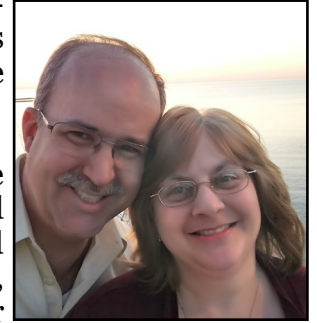
Please pray for all the details to come together in September and that a good team will form to come and encourage us as they did two years ago.



**Photo: Group from
September 2021, Grace
Mission to The World
work team**

A Word from a Board Member

Stephen and Lisa Meloon have been serving with Church Planters to America for over 20 years. Stephen serves as secretary on the board. He also brings great insight into technical and electrical solutions for our ministry. The following are the words Stephen wrote.



Stephen & Lisa Meloon

I recently saw a dramatic representation of the passage we all know of the apostles in a boat attempting to cross stormy water, only to be approached by Jesus walking to them. In the moment Simon shouted out for Jesus to bid him to step out of the boat, I saw the others who were rowing and bailing, doing the work in front of them. You and I are each doing our parts in our families, our churches, and certainly Church Planters to America. Praying, giving, sharing the work with those who might not be aware. How exciting would it be if you introduced church planting to the next "Simon", who hears the call of God to step out in faith and do the work of a missionary Pastor? We need men with that burden to connect with us. There are so many churches in need of Pastors.

I am so glad to be part of C.P.A. and to participate with all of you. My wife and I always look forward to the blessing of the summer retreat to encourage our men, and recharge for a few precious days. We are so happy to be part of a church planted by our founder, Tom Buckley, and blessed by the Andreas' service as well. I have been able to work for many years doing Audio Visual services as my day job, and very much enjoying applying those skills in the church and C.P.A. as well. My wife, Lisa, is the consistent loving caregiver whom I've been blessed with for over 31 years.

As time passes and we see the world's need for a Savior growing each day, Paul's words continue to ring true: "let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." (Galatians 6:9)

Daughters with Major Milestones!

We as parents find it exciting when our children meet great milestones in their lives. Mark and Sue Ruggerio and Rob & Sue Andreas have two such events that will happen this year. Bethany Ruggerio has been at Gordon College for four years and will be graduating this Spring with a BA in Computer Science. She is probing possibilities to use her college degree in the world. This is quite a transition for Bethany. Pray that God will supply all that she needs to utilize her degree in a job that makes her happy.



Bethany Ruggerio to Graduate from Gordon College this Spring



Mary & Eric Reisweber Expecting in April

Rob and Sue Andreas will be celebrating their tenth grandchild as Eric and Mary Reisweber have their first child in April. They are excited to bring their baby boy into their lives. Children are a blessing from the Lord the Bible tells us. May God grant health and much love in their marriage and family. Mary is our editor for all our publications.

Pray for these young ladies that God would work powerfully in each of their lives.



Church Planters to America
PO Box 165, 5 Buckley Ln.
Almond, NY 14804

Non-Profit
 Org.
 U.S. Postage
 Paid
Hornell, NY
 Permit No. 7

Return Service Requested

2023 Missionary Pastors' Retreat
June 19-23



C.P.A. Mission Family

It was decided last summer at our Annual Missionary Pastors' Retreat to make our retreat a little earlier in the summer. This is a big help as summer activities can be better planned for in July and August. Each year we send out a flyer and a response sheet to invite you to make this retreat fully paid for our missionaries and board members. This is the only financial plea that we make each year. God has been good to provide funds so our team can come and enjoy the week without any added expense to them. It is you that make this possible. Enclosed in this BEACON is our response form for you to fill out if you wish to help with our retreat.



Quote

**In such a fearful world
 we need a fearless
 church.**

C.S Lewis

NOTE

**Change of Address
 Below**

Church Is About People!

Throughout the year, churches gather every week for worship, study of God's Word, prayer, and fellowship. Different events come our way to build one another up. Here are a few examples of the things we have done in our C.P.A. churches. Emmanuel Baptist Church ministers at the nursing home. They hold a feast at Thanksgiving. Portageville Community Baptist Church has a church picnic, paints props for VBS and has the children participate with special music. Pictured below are some of the many fun and edifying times. It is truly a blessing to serve the Lord where He has called us to serve.



ADDRESS:
 P.O. Box 405
 Portageville, NY 14536
PHONE:
 (315) 868-1294
WEBSITE:
 www.cpamission.org
EMAIL:
 Cpamission12@gmail.com

REMINDER

Please let us know if you have a change of address, it will save us postage. Thank you!



Painting Props



Thanksgiving



Kids Singing



Christmas Caroling



Church Picnic