

# C.P.A. Beacon

Issue 49

**Church Planters to America**

Fall 2022

## 2022 Retreat a Real Treat for Everyone



**C.P.A. Family**

For five days this summer, the C.P.A. family met for our Annual Missionary Pastors' Retreat. We had a great week of fellowship and enjoyed encouraging Bible teaching and preaching. Food was great as we met for meals, and all sat together for good conversation. Carol Buckley was unable to attend this year and we certainly missed her presence.

It was decided by the Board of Directors at our Annual Business Meeting to officially put our headquarters building on the market. This meant contacting a local realtor to begin the process of selling the building. We are trusting the Lord for His timing to sell to the right buyer. This was a hard decision to make but we feel it is in the best interest of the mission.

During our retreat, we went through the building and inventoried everything. This was a very tedious task but with everyone helping it made things much easier. The old saying, "Many hands make light work" surely rang true in this task. We have a great group of missionaries and board members that work wonderfully together.

As we moved toward the end of the week reality set in that this is the last retreat we will have in this location. Headquarters is in a beautiful location in Almond with rolling hills to see. We will still have a retreat located in a different place each summer. The fellowship will still be ours to enjoy.

We want to thank all of you who sent in a special gift for our retreat. This made our time together beneficial, and we were able to supply everything needed for a spectacular week.



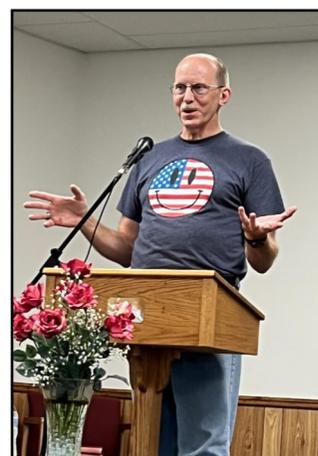
**Fine Food**



**Ladies Having Some Fun**



**Playing Cornhole**



**Morning Devotions**

## FROM THE DIRECTOR



**ROB  
ANDREAS**

God is so gracious to His children. We have received so much in this great salvation that He has provided for us. Think about it for a few moments. We have been taken from darkness and have been translated into the light of His Son. We are chosen and adopted into His family. We are saved from all sin and forgiven completely. We have been granted eternal life which started the moment we believed in Jesus. We have a hope that we will be, one day, in His presence in a glorious place He calls heaven. See, we have so much and so much more than all that.

Now that we know some of the blessings from our Heavenly Father, a question we might ask ourselves is, what have we given to Him? You see we have this life, only this life, to serve Him. We must dedicate and devote ourselves to His glorious purposes for us. We can give ourselves to the Lord every day and offer the sacrifice of praise to Him.

It is up to us to draw near to God and in return He will draw near to us. A relationship that is knit in love and grace coupled with His goodness and mercy should draw us into the provider of all things.

The first step in drawing near to God is to give one's life to Jesus Christ for His saving power and work. God made it so simple. He really did everything for our benefit. Have you received Him as your personal Savior? Take a moment and confess your sin and trust in Jesus.

*How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard Him;*

Hebrews 2:3

## Stewardship Contemplations

**Rev. Mark Ruggerio, Associate Director**

One theme that the Lord has laid upon my heart recently is that of stewardship. Steward is a word that we hear in God's Word, but not much in common English today. A close modern-day translation to the Greek word for steward is manager.

In today's busy world, in order to manage the many hats that each of us has to wear, we must be stewards of what has been apportioned for us. We each have a certain amount of time, money, and other resources. We are called to be good stewards of what the Lord has provided to us. So, I ask how am I doing? Have I been investing in things that really matter? Or, has another day slipped away, and my own personal interests have been my focus?

As a congregation stewardship is also something that needs to be on the forefront of our minds. How, as a congregation, are we doing with what the Lord has provisioned us with? With a large property and three older buildings, all of which had been neglected in the past, it is a continual challenge to be a good steward in the area of upkeep. Due to the Lord providing through the faithful giving of His people, we have been able to continue to make some very needed repairs, especially to an additional building on the back of the property. Two of the five entrances to the building had become unusable because of safety issues. This summer, a lot of work has been done and now these entryways are safe, sturdy, and to code.

Additionally, at the parsonage, as time and resources have allowed, we have been able to bring the main bath up to more of what one would expect in a home. So instead of bare sheet rock, loose tiles, a cracked sink, worn Marlite and a section of rot near the tub, we have a much more welcoming bath for use.

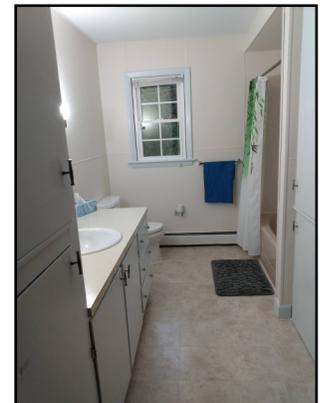
With all this said, and as important as it is, what is truly important for each of us, is our walk with the Lord. Our relationship with Him is paramount. First and foremost, we must know Him as Lord and Savior? Then beyond that, is the question how are we spending each day, each moment? Let us all ask ourselves the question, are we being good stewards, managers, of what the Lord has provided us?



**Before**



**After**



**Bathroom Upgrade**

## 57 Years of Combined Experience



**Rob & Mark**

As young men, Rob Andreas and Mark Ruggerio set out on a mission to help the local church become strong and viable in our nation. Church Planters to America gave us this opportunity to serve the Lord in this way. We have dedicated our lives to strengthen and build up the local church. We would be honored to have you join us in this adventure. We have an application process if you believe this is your calling. Please let us know so you can fill out and begin your church planting journey.

## Parsonage in Portageville Getting a Face Lift



**New Metal  
Roof**

Old buildings need some tender loving care. Often, as missionaries start a new work in small town America the facilities may have been run down over the years and what is necessary is resources and resolve to make things look better. When we first arrived here in Portageville, we knew one of the first things we needed to do was to put a steeple on top of our building. Praise God this was only the beginning of what the next few years would entail and continue to this day. The exterior of the church was completed last fall and this summer we had to address an old roof on the parsonage. We were able to hire this out and got the roof done efficiently. The folks at the church want their buildings to look great for the community. We were going to paint the parsonage but decided to put on vinyl siding instead. We will begin this project soon. Our fellowship hall, which was a Methodist church many years ago, needs some work. We are now saving for this to be done in the future. God has always provided for His work. We know this for a fact, and we trust that we will raise the funds necessary to make all our facilities look top notch.

## Two Board Member and Their Wives Honored

During our Missionary Pastors' Retreat we honored two of our board members for their faithfulness to our mission. Church Planters to America has existed for twenty-six years. Over the span of that time, we have seen many people come and go. But two of our five board members celebrated a milestone that we wanted to publish. This summer Bruce Bassett and his wife Pat and Erik Sinkora and his wife Sharon reached twenty-five years of service on our board of directors. Each of them with their various talents and gifts bring to our board a dynamic needed to function well. Erik is our financial secretary and is very good with numbers. Bruce with his maturity and wisdom keeps the focus we need as a mission. Twenty-five years is a long time to be on a single board, but this speaks highly of their faithfulness and commitment to the ideals of C.P.A. Their wives are also involved with the mission and make great teammates for their husbands. Erik and Sharon are retired and now raise alpacas. They sell alpaca goods and enjoy the challenge. Bruce is retired from teaching autobody which he did several years in Maine. They now live in Florida and Pat is still teaching college courses online. Both families love the Lord and want to serve Him. Many thanks for their years of service.



**Bruce and Pat Bassett**



**Erik and Sharon Sinkora**



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## **A Note from Carol Buckley**



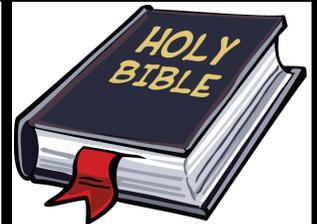
**Carol with her newest Grandbabies**

It is such a blessing to write to you dear praying friends, and such a blessing to be living near my family. However, I miss the ministry of Church Planters to America.

Just this past month we have had two new little additions to our family born to my granddaughter Danielle and her husband Nick on August 15th. A set of twins, a boy, and a girl. His name is Matthew David weighing 6 lbs. 2 oz. at 3:15 p.m. and her name is Oaklynn Joy weighing 5 lbs. 1 oz at 3:25 p.m. They were sent home two days later.

What a blessing they are to our family. So sweet and loving. They also have two sisters Brylie who is 7 years old and in first grade at a Christian school and a sister Madelyn who is 2 years old.

What a blessing it is for them to be born into a Christian home and attending a Bible believing church each Lord's Day.



**The more we dig  
 into the  
 Scriptures the  
 more they seem to  
 us an endless mine  
 of truth!**

Charles H. Spurgeon

## **Looking for Faithful Men**



God is looking for a few faithful men. In the Bible, Gideon was called into service for the Lord to defeat the army of the Midianites. They were a vast number, equipped for war. Gideon had thousands to pick from, but God narrowed his troop down to 300 men. God used Gideon and his few chosen men and defeated the multitudes of soldiers in this foreign army. God did the battling and gave victory to these few chosen men. God does not say everything will be easy but gives us assurance of His glorious presence through all the battles of life. He calls us to a lifelong journey of service. We are a part of God's army fighting the forces of darkness and gaining the victory with God going before us and preparing us to win in life. Church Planters to America needs men and their families to join us in the battle for the soul of America. The enemy is raging war on the church and believes he will defeat the good the church brings to this world. But we know the end of the story. GOD WINS! Be a part of this glorious victory.



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### **REMINDER**

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