



The Branch Family

Serving the Lord in South Africa

Mpumalanga
4,000,000 people

*Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?
Then said I, Here am I; send me. - Isaiah 6:8*

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Sending Church:

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Dear Supporting Churches and Friends,

What a joy it is to sit down and write our very first prayer letter! We have nothing but joy and gladness and praise to report as we serve the King of Kings! After twenty-one years of pastoring, it has been quite the transition to our call to South Africa. But God has certainly been gracious and is proving Himself faithful to us daily. The last Sunday in July was an emotional last day as pastor with our dear church family at Victory Baptist, and we will miss them greatly, but we are excited to "hit the deputation trail." I am thankful for my precious wife and kids who are adjusting well to the changes. They are a blessing and encouragement to me.

Things are going very well for us - God is blessing in so many ways! We have now safely traveled nearly 6,000 miles to be in over 25 churches since we started deputation the first of August. Each church has been a special blessing with many people taking a personal interest in what God has called us to do. We have been privileged to be a part of many Spirit-filled services with precious souls responding to the messages. Pastors have been gracious and hospitable, love offerings have been generous, and support is growing. **We now have (11) monthly supporters and are quickly approaching 15% of our needed support...Praise God!!**

The first of September, we made our first "big" trip which included a midweek service in Jacksonville, FL; an overnight stay in Pensacola, FL; a quick visit with friends in central Louisiana; then north to Bossier City, LA, for a missions revival. Then we headed out for a midweek service in Ashville, AL, and finally home after ten days of travel. While the trip was fun and exciting, it certainly gave us a new appreciation for missionaries we've met over the years traveling on deputation. During the trip, it was a blessing to visit with Pastor Joey Whitener and his people in Pitkin, LA, during a revival meeting. Bro. Joey was a member of our first pastorate in Mt. Airy, NC. He was my visitation partner, Sunday School teacher, and bus captain. We had not seen him in over 15 years and it was a blessing to see him serving the Lord faithfully with his family in a great church in Louisiana! Also, while in Bossier City, LA, we were able to visit with family that we had not seen in many years. **God is so good!!**

October and November are completely filled with meetings; some local, some not-so-local. We are excited to see what the Lord will do in these days! We want to thank each and every individual who has taken a prayer card and is praying for us, along with every church who has been led of the Lord to partner with us financially in this ministry. **With every supporting church, we are that much closer to our home - South Africa!**

Please pray for our continued safe travel. Pray for Malachi and Anna as they adjust to life on the road and to be diligent in their schoolwork. Also pray for our oldest son, David, who is attending college while we are away. Pray for more supporting churches, and please pray for the lost souls of South Africa!!

In Christ,
The Branch Family