

DANIEL AND CHERI PARISH

MISSIONARIES TO THE WESTERN US

July
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Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. - Rom 10:1-3

I know that these verses apply to Israel, but the truths also apply to our mission field here in Utah. Our LDS friends and neighbors certainly have a zeal for their God. On the way home from church last Wednesday, I was thinking about the events of the next day. That day was July 24th, or Pioneer Day here in Utah. It is a day that is set aside to remember the arrival of the first Mormon settlers into Utah. It is a state holiday that in the past has been a bigger celebration than July 4. In many parts of Utah, that is still the case. But, with the influx of non-Mormons into Utah, some cities are seeing a dramatic decrease in the percentage of Mormons compared to Non-Mormons. This has to be frustrating to many in Utah. A day that is very special to the church is losing its meaning. Also on my mind lately is the upcoming election. I suddenly realized that I can understand how our friends and neighbors feel. They are struggling to hold on to the grip that the LDS church has held over this state. As Christians, we see the decline of our influence in our own country. There doesn't seem to be a respect for God's Word in our nation. Utah and parts of the surrounding states have been considered a mission field for years. I believe that that mission field has now spread throughout our whole country. In my mind, this solidifies the need for missionaries and mission agencies in our own nation.

Our work with the office of Northwest Baptist Missions continues. The needs of the office are great. We desperately need to find a permanent home for the office. The Director and I are presently working out of our homes. We have had many gifts to our Building Fund this year, But we still only have about 25% of what is needed. Would you please pray with us about this need. Our goal is to primarily have a place for the office, and then we can expand our facilities to help and assist our missionaries in their works. Another need that I would ask you to pray for is our need for missionaries. This year, two of our veteran missionaries have gone home to be with the Lord. Please pray for their wives as they adjust to the loss of their husbands.

Mountain View Baptist Church of Grantsville, UT is continuing under the leadership of my dad. So far this summer, we have had our Vacation Bible School and five of our young people have gone to Christian camps. On July 31 - August 1, we will be maintaining a booth at the Tooele County Fair. Please pray for this time. We will be handing out literature and talking with any that come by the booth. This is our second year at the county fair. We had a new family attending, but work took them out of state. Recently, we have had another couple that has been coming. Please be in prayer, that the Lord would give us families to be a part of our church.

Thank you for all your prayers and support. This year has been extremely busy for our family. Elise will be starting the 8th grade this year, and Heath will be in the 5th grade. Cheri has passed her LPN test. This fall and next spring, she will finish up nursing school and test for her RN in May or June 2009. Our biggest need is your prayers. Thank you for taking part in our ministry.

In His Service,
Daniel, Cheri, Elise and Heath Parish