



RICKARD NEWS

THE TOM RICKARD FAMILY SENT OUT BY CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF CASPER, WY
2021 | JANUARY NEWSLETTER | 303-880-1278 | P.O. BOX 674, WHEATLAND, WY 82201

Happy New Year from the Rickards

Welcome to another wonderful year-2021. We hope that this year has MANY MORE positive things in it than last year's crazy surprises! We are so thankful for all God has done for us. While most people move through life with a "heads down," "why me" mentality, I tend to see God working around us. We were in Denver picking our daughter Becky from the airport, traveling west on I-70, when we came up to a huge wreck a few blocks ahead. Several police were already on the scene...and we were in the left lane, stuck now for "who knows how long". All of a sudden, a huge fire truck was coming up behind us-strobing his lights and blaring his sirens. We were obviously supposed to MOVE OUT OF THE WAY! With my huge Dodge dually truck, I began a slow move to the right, causing a "flood" of movement of all the other cars, crossing several lanes to make room for the fire truck. While most began again their slow movement forward to the totally blocked highway, I noticed a single lane dropping away to the right. Dropping into the lane, we plunged down and away and were able to completely escape the havoc of the traffic jam. **Let's remember to see God's blessings around us and be thankful for all He has done!**

Our New Year will begin with us heading toward Texas!

January 11-12 Two days of travel to Texas. It is a long way from Wheatland, WY to Houston, TX.

January 13 Beulah Land Baptist Church, Cleveland, TX

We worked in ministry with Brother Aubrey Vaughan from 1981-86 in Houston, TX. We have known them since college days back in the late 70's. It will be exciting to see all the Vaughan "kids" (now in their late 40's and 50's. We will give our ministry update in their Wednesday evening service. Our son Josh and his family will also be there in the service to present his ministry and preach.

January 14-23 Victory Baptist Church, Baytown, TX

We will be helping this supporting church with several projects. It has been exciting every year to see what unique projects the Lord is bringing to us...LOL. ☺ My son Josh will be helping with the projects this year and also have the opportunity to meet another of our supporting churches! Please pray that God will continue to be leading this church regarding their future ministering to their community.

January 23-29 Calvary Baptist Church, Conroe, TX

Josh and I will be ministering to the children in this church in their Children's Revival that we have for them every year. There will be several chapels each day to break the number of kids into smaller numbers due to Covid-19 concerns. We will start with Children's Church on Sunday morning, then all the Awana kids on Sunday evening. Then chapels all week with verse memory and prizes! Wednesday evening is their children's special Mission's Night! We will have our missionary story with support of props and actors. We are looking forward to God's working in hearts and spiritual needs of the children. Please pray for salvation and growth in the children.

Thanks for your prayers and support. It is a blessing to have so many friends praying for us. I believe that the safety in travel is a direct result of that prayer! We have included our new prayer card, we hope you enjoy it. God is so good to work through His people to touch the lives of boys/girls/teenagers/adults. Thanks for your help in reaching and touching other lives! ☺
May God richly bless you this New Year as you serve Him in YOUR community



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Merry Christmas From the Rickards!!

From Bro Tom and Peggy- It has been a great year. We have been blessed with good health and safe travels. Tom did at least 5 roofs this year along with many other projects. Peggy has sure enjoyed the many hours talking to her kids and also the time with grandkids- ("never enough".)

From Becky/Jeff- 2020 was a busy year in Columbus, Georgia for the Skutt family! Jeff helped remodel a new activity center, began teaching piano lessons and is active in the bus and the children's ministries at Grace Baptist Church. He is also in charge of Elementary Chapel! Becky, Micah and Josiah went digital for school beginning in March but thankfully, have been able to have in-person classes for the 2020-2021 school year. Becky has 14 students for her third year in 1st grade, Micah is in 2nd grade and Josiah is in Kindergarten. All four of them are thrilled to come home to Wyoming for Christmas this year and are praying for snow! Love and prayers from the Skutts

From Mary/Seth- As with everyone, this year has been much different for Seth and I. God has been so good to us through it all with his blessings. We are both still working for U.S. Bank and have now transitioned to working from home full time. This has allowed us extra time and flexibility we previously didn't have. We are staying very busy with work and the puppy (a black lab we named Britain) that we added to our family in July. We have also been able to travel more this year - mostly using Seth's pilots license. We were able to fly to Wyoming to see mom and dad in August and Indianapolis to see Nate and Meredith in December among other destinations. We were also able to host Josh and Becky during their visits to Minnesota this year. As the year comes to a close we are looking forward to celebrating our third anniversary and Christmas. Love, the Swansons



From Josh/Sarah- What an exciting year 2020 has been for our family! I started off the year with teaching 5th/6th grade at Grace Christian School. In May, I completed my contract at Grace Christian School and became a full-time missionary sent out by Grace Baptist Church. We were able to sell our house and buy a fixer-upper, essentially eliminating our mortgage payment. We then purchased our truck and hit the road for the summer. This fall we purchased a 5th wheel.

The Lord allowed us to minister in 3 churches for VBS, 2 weeks of camp, and preach/present our ministry in several other churches. We came home to Columbus, Georgia in August to help remodel our home church's new activity center building. September through November we were on the road ministering in 14 churches, preaching, presenting, and helping with all sorts of projects from roofing to flooring to nursery remodel. The Lord protected us over nearly 25,000 miles, traveling through about 20 states.

Lastly, I would like to share a couple highlights from this year. 1. My oldest kids are noticing that God had answers their prayers! 2. During a week of VBS in July, Victoria got saved. 3. This spring and summer, we saw many life-changing decisions among church kids and teens. During our VBS weeks, a common talking point by workers and pastors alike was "This has been a great week for our church kids." One pastor described it as a revival for the teenagers in his church! Even in the dark times, God's light still shines! Thanks for your prayers, the Josh Rickards

From Nathan/Meredith- Meredith and I have had a blessed year. I am still the youth pastor and high school teacher at Fishers Baptist Church in Indiana. Meredith still works in the church and school helping out in various needs and positions. Let us say that it has been wonderful to see God work in the hearts of our teenagers and kids here. We got our first puppy, Mipha (-from do-re-me-fa-so-ti do) and have loved having her around. We wish you all a wonderful New Year. We appreciate the many prayers, Love, the Nathan Rickards

