



The Delhotal's to Santa Barbara

July 28, 2023

Greetings praying friends!

July 3 marked one full year of deputation. When we started scheduling meetings, I harbored a hope that we would be able to limit our travels to one year, but it only takes a little consideration of the large amount of support required to live in Santa Barbara to recognize that one year would not be enough. We are very happy, though, to be creeping closer to the 50% mark. We praise the Lord that our schedule has been full and we have recently been able to schedule meetings to fill our last openings through the Fall. In December, we plan to secure housing in Santa Barbara and have set aside some time for the move and to celebrate the holidays in our future home. We do have a few open services that we could schedule meetings for in November and December, so prayer would be appreciated as we try to reach out to a few churches in California. In January, we plan to take what we hope will be our final extensive deputation trip, working our way to Florida and back. It remains our prayer and tentative goal to begin holding services some time in the Spring.

We ended our previous letter in Ohio, and on Sunday, June 18, we had the joy of presenting in two churches that I have known and appreciated for years. Saturday, we had the **opportunity to lead a teen boy to faith in Christ** while out soul-winning with Bible-Way Missionary Baptist in Hamilton, OH. Pastor Ron Pittman received his ministry training at our sending church and served as a missionary to Mexico before God brought him to Ohio. We had a great time celebrating Father's Day with this church family. Sunday evening found us on the other side of Cincinnati with Cozaddale Baptist in Goshen and dear friend Pastor Travis Burke. During the week, we were able to spend some more time visiting with Mom before beginning our trip toward the Northeast. We were back in Ohio for Sunday the 25th with Pastor Jeremiah Sargent and Cornerstone Baptist in Massillon. Wednesday found us with Pastor Aaron Campbell and Glory Baptist in Indianapolis before heading to Broadview Heights, OH for Sunday. Pastor Joel Royalty and his wife are friends from college that we had not seen for years. After rich fellowship with the Royaltys, we made our way into PA for the evening with Pastor Greg Simpson and Lighthouse Baptist in Bessemer. We celebrated the 4th (and 5th) with another college acquaintance, Pastor Mark Wagner and the Hannahstown Road Baptist Church in Cabot, PA followed by a Sunday with two pastors that were teens at Fairhaven when I was in college. Pastor Tom Almanza and Greater York Baptist in York were our morning appointment followed by Pastor Jim Leslie and Bible Baptist in McConnellsburg and we had a great time in both of these young congregations. Wednesday and Thursday found us in Philadelphia in a young mother church, Liberty Baptist, and its daughter, Bible Baptist, both pastored by Burton Gates. We did not get a chance to meet Pastor Gates, but his assistants made us feel welcome with some delicious Philly cheesesteaks!

Praise the Lord for two new supporting churches: Pastor Bryan McDonald and Prairie View Baptist Church, Lake City, IL and Pastor Brandon Starnes and Susquehanna Valley Baptist Church, Harrisburg, PA. **Please keep praying for increased support!**

For His Glory,
Chad Delhotal and family

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