

This is John Shaw reporting the March 2, 2022, edition of *Home Missions Today*. God is using your prayers to develop the ministries of Orthodox Presbyterian mission works across North America.

### NEON, KENTUCKY — Jay and Andrea Bennett



Last fall Pastor Jay Bennett wrote, “The city of Neon has been spruced up a bit lately. We’d like to add to that by renovating the face of our storefront building in 2022.” Fast forward—on Monday, Feb. 21, a car crashed through the front window of Neon Presbyterian Church. Praise the Lord that no one was seriously injured. In God’s providence, the insurance money from this accident will make Neon’s desired reno project possible. In an interview with local news reporters, Bennett recounts, “We heard a crash and felt the building shake. My wife thought that something had exploded.” This is the second time the church has experienced a car crash. Congregants were quick to patch up the building and have been able to return to worship, for which they’re thankful. Concerning the church’s ministry to the local addiction recovery center, Bennet shares that “at the last Bible study several men spoke with me afterward to express appreciation and ask for prayer. I was able to pray for them as they asked and encourage them in the faith. I’m thankful for such opportunities.” Please pray for the fruitfulness of Neon’s new member class this spring and for God’s blessing on building renovations.

### THOUSAND OAKS, CALIFORNIA — Caleb and Erika Smith



“In January, Thousand Oaks Pres. received three new members and in March we’ll receive two more. One of these families has been praying that a Reformed church would be established in Thousand Oaks for over ten years!” Pastor Caleb Smith continues, “In December of 2021 the local newspaper ran a story on our church plant. Since then we have made over fifteen new contacts.” Praise the Lord for this provision. Thousand Oaks will meet in a temporary facility during April and May, which should offer members a fresh opportunity to invite friends, family, and neighbors to worship. In the summer, the church hopes to run VBS. Smith requests prayer “that the Lord would raise up godly leaders in our congregation, families, and community. We plan to have a leadership training class for our men later this year.”

### GRAND FORKS, NORTH DAKOTA — Christopher and Sara Drew



Pastor Christopher Drew reports, “We received a new family by transfer several weeks ago and had the privilege of baptizing their infant son. We will receive another family of four in the next few weeks. The Lord continues to provide ample resources for our work; worship has been deeply edifying, and we have seen a bump in visitors.” With these blessings in mind, Drew recalls the words of Ps. 127:1, “Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.” This summer the church is hopeful to have Drew minister on a full-time basis. Please pray for Pastor Drew that he would continue to balance the needs of his family, church, and full-time secular job.

### PRESBYTERY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA — Chris and Megan Hartshorn



Over the past few months, I have continued to visit our mission works around Southern California and Arizona. Please pray for fruitful labors and that God would provide all needed to particularize in Corona, Pasadena, Thousand Oaks, Yuma, and the Island of Oahu. We have organized a Friday morning Bible study started in Laveen, Arizona (seven miles SW of downtown Phoenix). Please pray we can move this group to Sunday nights at the proper time and then become a mission work, gathering for worship on Sunday mornings. We have rather suddenly and unexpectedly gathered together a group for a church plant in Scottsdale, Arizona. Lord willing, we will begin Sunday morning worship there on May 15. (Please pray for us as we search for a church building in Scottsdale, and that word would get out about this brand-new work!) We are also working with Grace Covenant Church in Twentynine Palms, California, and Roy Garza, their pastor. We are looking to bring this group into our presbytery as a mission work. Finally, please pray with us as we seek to get something off the ground in Coastal North County San Diego (Encinitas area) and wherever else the Lord might lead!

Look for the next *Home Missions Today* on Wednesday, March 16, 2022.

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