

The Dundons

Missionaries to the Deaf in Philadelphia

WORLD WIDE
NEW TESTAMENT BAPTIST MISSIONS



Matt & Colleen

Current support level:
1%

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Sending Church:

Hampshire View Baptist Deaf
Church — 360 Ednor Rd,
Silver Spring, MD 20905 —
(301) 476-0466
www.hvbdc.com

First Prayer Letter!

Well, where do I start? The last several months have been phenomenal, the way God has opened the door for me to enter missions has been eye opening. “For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries.” (1 Corinthians 16:9) A couple of years ago, I would not have pictured myself as a missionary on deputation. In fact, I was planning to find a job in Philadelphia and start a church from scratch at the same time but the Lord had other plans. It is important that while we are making preparations for the future, we remain flexible and be open to His leading, then adjust accordingly if our ideas differ from His. “Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: ... For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.” (James 4:13, 15)

Acceptance into WWNTBM



Mission Board:

World Wide New Testament
Baptist Missions
2069 County Line Rd
P.O. Box 725
Kings Mountain, NC 28086
(704) 730-1440
www.wwntbm.com

This journey started back in March with my interview with World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions. Looking back, I'm still amazed on how smoothly the interview went. I was a nervous wreck before the meeting. I'm usually quite a laid back person and hardly anything would stress me out, but I learned the definition of being stressed without realizing it, forgetting things which I don't normally do, plus other new quirks. Even my wife pointed that out, and she knows me best!



As the meeting got underway, it appeared that the mission board was already satisfied with my statement of faith. At the end, my pastor and the interviewers voted to recommend me to the rest of the board. About a month later in April, I was officially accepted into the mission agency.

Towards the end of the interview, my pastor said that the meeting was quite akin to interviewing someone for ordination so he gave me the blessing to become an ordained minister.

Ordination

My church scheduled the ordination service in May. Three seasoned pastors came, my pastor Dr. Terry Buchholz, my former pastor from Bethel Baptist Church in Philadelphia Dominic Pennachietti, and Lawrence Schillingburg, a Pastor for the deaf at Grace Baptist Temple in Jane Lew, West Virginia. It was a wonderful blend of the worlds I grew up in: Pastor Buchholz is deaf, Pastor Pennachietti is hearing, and Pastor Schillingburg is also hearing, but he was raised by deaf parents. He led the service, giving a powerful message speaking both English and American Sign Language. He said to me that



He said to me that

my ordination is the second most important day in my life, after my salvation, something I will never forget.

My First Wedding!

Now that I'm an ordained minister, I can marry couples! Last winter, one of my best friends asked me if I could conduct his wedding in June in Philadelphia. He is very dear to me. The first time I heard the gospel was through him in high school. I reject it blatantly then, but God used him to plant the seed in my heart and he



tirelessly brought up the gospel with me for over a year. Eventually, I became saved through some of the tracts he gave me.

Some time after graduation, he found a job in Texas, San Antonio. He lost this job last December and this made he and his fiancé rededicate themselves to the Lord. When he heard that I became a pastor, contacted me and asked if I could officiate his wedding. For months prior to the wedding, we met on videophone weekly for marriage counseling. It is not often that you

hear about a minister wed the person who led him to the Lord, quite the opposite, I'm privileged to have this blessing. At the reception, my wife led one of their relatives to the Lord and referred them to a good local church in the city. Praise the Lord!

Missionary Conference

The first church we visited for our deputation was Memorial Baptist Church in Ocala, Florida, for their missionary conference. We had a week of preaching and an opportunity to fellowship with other missionaries, gaining invaluable advice. Towards the end of the conference, they decided that they would support us and the rest of the missionaries who attended. It was a great start to our deputation and certainly lifted up our spirits. While we were there, a friend of ours checked our apartment and saw

flooding in the kitchen from a broken pipe in the ceiling. We immediately informed our landlord, she came, fixed the pipe and got rid of the flooding. However, by the time we got back, our home reeked of mold, affecting the walls in every room from days of humidity. We had less than two weeks before Family Fellowship Week so we did not get to clean all of it off until July, it stole quite a bit of our time.

Family Fellowship Week



We had another great week of preaching and fellowship in North Carolina. It was during this time that the Lord worked on our hearts on how to proceed with deputation. The conference was also quite informative, and added to our already great start.

Death

While I was taking a look at Facebook, I read about the passing of a young deaf man. He died in a car accident about 15 minutes outside of

Philadelphia at the end of June. At 25 years old, he is younger than me. I never knew him or the condition of his salvation. Apparently, he was gay and came from a deaf family, please pray God will use this to prepare the heart of deaf souls in the community to receive the Gospel. I'm barely starting deputation and it pains me to hear any of them passing. Pray that the Lord will hold their lives until they hear the Gospel.

Prayer Requests

- For my deputation schedule to be filled up with more meetings
- For my support to increase
- For my friend and his newlywed wife to grow in the Lord as a family hereafter
- For their saved relative to grow and become faithful

Thank you!!