



VISTAS

For Independent Baptist Churches in the
Mountain West United States

NOV/DEC 2024

THE BIBLICAL CALL OF CHURCH PLANTING

The Purpose and Work of the IMBF

Mission Statement

1. To promote a spirit of Christian Fellowship among independent Baptists of like faith.
2. To encourage a united missionary outreach at home and abroad.
3. To assist like-minded churches needing our support in a tangible manner whenever possible.
4. To endeavor to establish new churches where the call is felt for a Christian witness.
5. To earnestly contend for and defend the Faith against the errors of liberalism, New Evangelicalism, and inclusivism.
6. To operate Castle Rock Baptist Camp, owned and controlled by the Inter-Mountain Baptist Fellowship.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CHURCH PLANTING

1. Proof of Faithfulness to the Great Commission. The most important reason to plant churches is to fulfill our obligation to the great commission and New Testament role model of evangelizing the lost and edifying the saints. Matthew 28:19-20 and the missionary journeys of the Apostle Paul reveal this Biblical mandate.
2. Pressure to be Unfaithful to the Great Commission. Some good churches will leave their Biblical roots and become liberal, modernistic, and apostate from the faith. This decreases the faithful witness of God as well financial and prayer support of missions to fewer churches. New churches need to be established to replace these losses. Without new churches the work of Biblical missions will be hindered.
3. Population Changes. Population shifts and growth in existing towns and cities create a need for church planting. As new communities are developed new churches need to be established to reach these population centers. If new churches are not planted, the people of these communities must drive long distances to find a good church, thus abandoning the New Testament emphasis of the "local church".
4. Problems in Local Assemblies. There are times when a local church's testimony in the community ceases to be viable. This may be caused by dissension, internal problems, immorality, embezzling, and other issues which alienate the local church from the community. Church planting or a church restart becomes necessary in order to have a proper witness for the Lord.
5. Properly Seeing a Need. "Where there is no vision the people perish." Proverbs 29:18. Some areas do not have a fundamental local church to attend. As God's people we need to band together to reach the unreached.

FIELD REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Dr. Paul Hoover (pauldhoover@icloud.com)

Cindy and I would like to wish everyone a Blessed Christ Filled Christmas and a Prosperous Spiritual New Year! We are asking that the Lord would continue to use us in His Service and for His Kingdom in the areas of church planting, pastoral encouragement and church helps!

- Happy Trails, Dr. Paul and Cindy Hoover

IT IS OUR PRAYER THAT WE MIGHT RELAY TO OUR READERS THE VISTAS OF THE GLORIES OF CHRIST AND HIS WORK, ENJOY THE SWEET FELLOWSHIP OF GOD'S PEOPLE, AND SHARE OUR BURDEN FOR THE GREAT AND NEEDY HARVEST FIELDS OF THE IMBF.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! Isaiah 52:7

CHURCH PLANTING VISION

DR. PAUL HOOVER

Here is a list of some of the new church plants we have helped over the past ten years of our ministry among the churches of the Inter-Mountain Baptist Fellowship in the Mountain West States. Please pray for the pastors and people of these new works as well as our ministry for the Lord.

1. Bakken Baptist Church - Williston, North Dakota
2. Redeeming Grace Baptist Church - Missoula, Montana
3. New Life Baptist Church - Kellogg, Idaho
4. Power Baptist Church - Power, Montana
5. Grandview Baptist Church - Driggs, Idaho
6. Bible Baptist Church - Big Timber, Montana
7. Mountain Valley Baptist Church, Pocatello, Idaho
8. Concord Harvest Baptist Church, Three Forks, Montana
9. Blessed Hope Baptist Church, Libby Montana
10. White Sulphur Springs Baptist Church, White Sulphur Springs, Montana
11. Smelter City Baptist Church, Anaconda, Montana



UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES IN 2025

Spring Preaching Conference

First Baptist Church, Laurel, Montana - April 7-8

Castle Rock Baptist Camp Dates

Nehemiah Work Retreat - June 5-7

Caleb's Kin Camp - June 23- 27

Sr. High Camp - July 7-11

Intermediate Camp - July 14-18

Junior Camp - July 21-25

IMBF Annual Meeting

Grace Baptist Church, Billings, Montana - October 6-7

Pastors of fellowship member churches can send news articles from their church to Dr. Paul Hoover to be included in future issues of this newsletter.

Contact Dr. Hoover
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INTER-MOUNTAIN BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP

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