



# THE VAN ZANDT FAMILY

## Church Planters to Rhome, Texas

*Love God. Reach People. Send Laborers.*

Dear Pastor & Friends,

God has blessed our family and ABC in ways we could not even comprehend (or even ask for) in 2023. With this new year, Antioch Baptist Church is experiencing what Paul was writing about in Philippians 3:13-14 "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Although we rejoice what the Lord has done in 2023, I am confident that God will open many more doors in 2024 for ABC. Would you please labor in prayer for God's hand of guidance, provision, and protection?!

We are eternally grateful for each family and each individual who have been laboring in prayer for us. God has answered several prayers all at once! Our house is now under contract. I now have another job to help supplement the income that we have lost, and the kids were approved for Tricafra!

On the flip side, we have lost monthly support (around \$1,000 monthly), and we know that there will be other churches dropping support in the coming year due to the time agreement that they made with us while on deputation. Would you please pray for God to continue to supply above our need? God has been providing through other churches and individuals to help accommodate my family's needs. I am reminded of Jesus' words in Matthew 6:33-34 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." I will be attending a Church Planter's Conference in January, and our prayer is that the Lord will use the churches and individuals present to bless our Church and provide some of the upcoming needs of ABC and my family.

ABC has experienced new growth as well! Most importantly (and what we are MOST excited and thankful for), this year we have seen 13 people saved from our weekly soul winning program and 4 from ministries of the church! We have also had 6 people baptized this year. We are averaging 35-40 on Sunday mornings, 20 in Sunday school, 15-20 on Sunday nights, and 10-15 on Wednesday evenings. We have had several first time visitors each service with several returning visitors. God also opened the door for my brother-in-law and sister-in-law to move here and assist in the functions of the church (which has greatly helped in the work load).

Since our last letter, we have had several events, both new and repeat. We had our Annual First Responder's Service with 5 Rhome Police officers in attendance. We had our first Missions Conference, and we are now supporting 6 missionaries as a church! We also had our first Fall Fest (instead of just Trunk-or-Treat), that had a low community attendance, but our church family was enriched by the time, effort, and energy that was put into it. We also had our Annual Veterans Day Service with several veterans in attendance, and Bro. Cox did a wonderful job!

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### Health

Our family was the sickest we have been in years.

1

### Membership

Please pray for us as we plug in our new members.

2

### Services

That each service will be Christ-centered.

3

### Outreach

Please pray for our Soul Winning efforts in 2024

4

### Stewardship

Please pray for wisdom as we are entering into uncharted territory for our Church!

5



### Contact

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### Sending Church

Santa Fe Baptist Church

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### Missions Agency

IBFI Missions

PO Box 151259

Fort Worth, TX 76108



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Lastly, but certainly not least, we just had our First Annual Candlelight Service, with 42 in attendance! The Gospel was proclaimed, and we are praying that the Holy Spirit works in the hearts of those who were present and heard the Good News!

God has been moving in ways unimaginable. We had a Church Planting foundation give a love offering to ABC that helped pay the total work that needed to be done for the french drain we had to put in! My brother in law has agreed to service and provide maintenance for all of our HVAC systems in our new building. One of our members is an electrician, and he has saved us thousands of dollars by providing updated lighting, improving existing electrical issues, and bringing our building up to code. I am thankful that God builds His church with the people He knows it needs!

### IN FAMILY NEWS.....

The fall and winter seasons have been especially trying for everyone in our family. My wife and I have gotten sick several times, as well as the kids. The kids were recently diagnosed with RSV, which can cause serious concerns because of their CF. Praise the Lord that their lungs are clear and working efficiently! It even has our Pediatricians amazed and allowed us the opportunity to openly thank the Lord with them: To God be the Glory! Would you please pray that in 2024 we will be especially guarded from sickness? Both kiddos are also starting a medication known as "the 12 hour cure." It has worked incredibly well in those who are able to take it. However, many CF people have had allergic reactions and cannot continue the regiment. Please pray that they will have no negative side effects from this medicine, and they can take it as one step closer to a full cure! Also, Salem lost her insurance, and we have been battling to get her coverage for several months. She has missed several appointments due to our inability to pay the out-of-pocket costs for specialists. The new coverage is also said to require steep co-pays for her monthly medications which puts a greater strain on our monthly finances. But we know God is good, and He is greater than insurance and disease and will work things out!

God is so good and faithful to us, and we know that without your time, energy, effort, and support of our family the Lord would not bring all of these things to fruition! Thank you once again for your continued support, investment, and concern of our ministry and family!

In Christ,  
Pastor Heath Van Zandt and Family  
Psalm 115:1

## ANSWERED PRAYERS

### Building

The remodel is complete!

1

### Family

Salem and Silas both now have Tricasta!

2

### Soul Winning

We have seen 13 people accept Christ as their Savior!

3

### Discipleship

We have seen 6 people baptized and there are 3 men that are about to complete Discipleship!

4

### Remodel

We were able to install a french drain! This is a huge answer to prayer!

5



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