
from the nest of

◆ Eagle  Ministry ◆

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Eagle Summit Beginning Our 10th Year of Ministry

In 1994 I was asked, “If you could do anything you wanted to do in ministry, what would you do?” I don’t remember who asked me that question, but it initiated a challenge in my mind and heart to begin dreaming about what God might have me do to assist pastors in forgotten and potentially lonely places. Prior to that, I had been so involved in ministry that I had never allowed myself to dream beyond the immediate. I had never asked God to give me a larger vision. The seeds of Eagle Summit were planted.

With the encouragement of our friends in ministry, Dan and Peg Hayek, in the fall of 1996, our dream became reality. From our first year of ministry, God has provided “tent making opportunities” to sustain our fledgling work along with faithful friends who encouraged us through prayer and financial support. Many of you are still serving with us side by side. A few have gone to heaven before us. Your encouragement has made it possible for us to serve God’s Servants. We are so thankful for your responsiveness to God’s challenge.



I am so thankful for a wife who has stood with me through many difficult moments and who has been able to share many blessings that can only be known through ministry. If it were not for her faithful encouragement and willingness to work outside the home, this ministry would not be possible. I promised Diane several things, before we were married in 1969. We would probably never own a home, I would probably never serve as the “senior pastor” of a church (I felt God’s direction on my life was to serve as an assistant) and that I would never retire. I have kept most of those promises. In our first 20 years of ministry, we moved 22 times, making home ownership rather impractical. Diane did not divorce me; I know some wives who have left their husbands for less. I have always appreciated Ruth Graham’s candor when asked if she had ever considered divorcing Billy. Her response was, “Divorce no, murder, yes.” I’m sure there have been moments when Diane has felt the same. That’s one of the reasons I hide the knives (Just kidding).

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“Serving God’s Servants”

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In the six churches in which we have served, involving over 30 years, my responsibilities have always been that of an assistant or associate pastor. I had someone ask once when I was going to become a real pastor. I knew God's call on my life, so I took that question in stride. As we look back now, those 30 plus years were our preparation for what God has now directed us to do. Eagle Summit was given birth in the fall of 1996, but was conceived in the heart of God in eternity past. It is humbling to think that we as mortals can be part of fulfilling Creator God's plans.

In the past nine years, we have served in over 100 churches here in the Inland Northwest. Some of those churches have even asked us back a second time. We have served from one Sunday in a number of churches to the better part of a year in a church and another church, nearly two years, assisting them in finding a pastor. Pray with us that God will allow us to continue to serve Him into the next decade and beyond. May your prayers for us include: Wisdom, Spiritual Sensitivity, Physical Strength and God's encouragement so we can encourage others.

By the way, I did break one promise. God has allowed us to have our own home. What an incredible blessing to have a place on this earth that we call HOME.



Elk Community Church

This past September 11th, the Pastor at Elk Community Church resigned after about four years of service. The leadership of the church contacted Moody Northwest for possible pulpit supply help and then contacted me. At the time, they did not know about our ministry and the fact that our main focus is to serve the small and rural church. We have filled their pulpit since then with Keith Kirkingburg helping when I can't be there.

We will be assisting these good folks and their leadership team until God opens doors for a new pastor to serve with them.



Sprague Community Church

Sprague Community Church will always have a special place in my heart. I believe it was the fall of 1997 when I preached for them. Their Pastor had recently gone home to be with the Lord and they needed assistance with pulpit supply. After my message, a little girl about eight or nine years old came up to me and said, "That's the first time I ever understood a message. Will you come and be our pastor?" No one could have paid me a higher compliment.

This past Sunday, October 23, I filled in for Pastor Dan Hayek who held a funeral for a family member in Oregon. I had purposefully left this Sunday open just in case a last minute need arose. In early September I had commented to Diane that I had only one meeting scheduled for the next six weeks. Within two days, there were four churches that needed assistance. As our daughter said, our ministry is much like that of a EMT; we are an Emergency Medical Team for pastors. It was a great opportunity to share a challenge from the book of James and renew old friendships. What a privilege it is to be where God wants us to be at just the right time. You help make this possible.



ESM Christmas Wish List

- New ESM Brochure / Printing Cost: 5,000 copies \$930 (plus tax)
- "That the World May Know" DVD series from Focus on the Family
- New Laptop Computer \$2,500



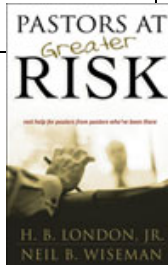


Moody Northwest

Many of you are aware that the aviation program Moody Bible Institute moved to Spokane two years ago from Elizabethton, Tennessee. Friday, October 14th was the dedication of the new hanger at Felts Field and an opportunity to meet the new president of MBI, Dr. Michael Easley. Dr. Easley is a godly man, filling some big shoes and shouldering a great responsibility. There is no doubt in my mind that he is God's man for MBI.

This is my 15th year teaching at MNW. I am teaching two courses this fall semester, Physical Science and General Epistles. Next semester I am scheduled to teach Educational Foundations and Life Science. I love to teach because it is a continuing opportunity to plant seeds in the lives of others dedicated to ministry and an opportunity keep learning.

Pastors At Greater Risk, written by H.B. London and Neil Wiseman, will help you understand the unique challenges of full time vocational ministry. It would be a worthwhile investment of time and money to read this and learn how to pray more effectively for your pastor and to be able to encourage him and his family.



DVD PRODUCTION DELAYS

With computer crashes and software problems, our informational DVD is still under production. We will make good use of it upon completion.

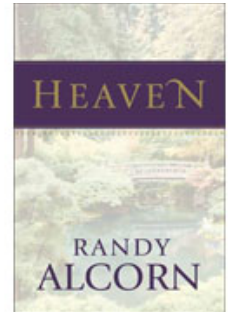
Pray with us that we will have this by the first of the year and that churches will be receptive. We need ten churches to assist us as new encouragers.



We Highly Recommend This Book for Your Study

Diane and I are reading *HEAVEN*, by Randy Alcorn. We have found this book to be thoroughly biblical and a great challenge to our thinking about Heaven.

The author even asks the reader to contact him if there are statements that are not biblical. He wants this study to reflect God's truth, not what we wish to think or what tradition says about life after this life. This is a great investment with eternal rewards. Alcorn answers questions about heaven by sharing from his extensive research on the topic.



Thoughts from Diane . . .

My daughter and I were reminiscing about Great Grandma Etta a couple of weeks ago. Etta used to see a baby and invariably say "The best time of their life and they don't even know it!" That brought Dawna's thoughts back to the time she was little. She remembered being so excited as a child when we did a family activity and she could enjoy a carefree, fun day filled with the excitement of whatever lay before her. No responsibility whatsoever would dampen her spirits.

Now Dawna is a mom and she feels the weight of the responsibility she didn't know existed back then. It takes money, planning, a lot of forethought and scheduling to complete a plan of action. When you're dependent on your mom and dad to make something happen, you don't consider how complex the plan may be, you just wait on mom and dad to make it happen. We've waited on God for ten years to make Eagle Summit Ministry His plan, not ours. He's provided the plan, encouragement of God's people and finances. Sometimes it's difficult to wait on God for all this. Sometimes the plan is vague, the people forget for a while and finances come as God sees fit, not us.

We are thankful for all of God's provision.

Standing Firm, Diane I Corinthians 15:58

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The Continuing Mission of Eagle Summit Ministry: “Serving God’s Servants”



Visit our web site: www.eaglesummitministry.org

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To Summit Up

Open for Ministry Opportunities

Nov – Dec as available — Elk Community Church

Nov 6 — Deer Park EV Free Church

Mission’s Conference at New Hope October 14-16

We had a great weekend of fellowship with our church family at New Hope Bible Church here in Spokane Valley. We set up our ESM display and, on Sunday morning, shared the focus of our ministry and presented the challenge of the last words of Jesus here on earth to His disciples from Matthew 28. What we commonly refer to as the “Great Commission” has for many Christians become the “Great Omission.” It has become far too common for many believers to simply “pay someone else” to do what they see as someone else’s job, that of missions. Missions begins with our neighbors, co-workers, family, classmates and friends. It is the responsibility of every believer and beyond that, a privilege to share the message of the Gospel with others in our sphere of influence.

We so appreciate the encouragement of our church family. Beyond the prayer and financial support, we appreciate the fellowship and open arms that have sustained us through some challenging moments. Thank you.

