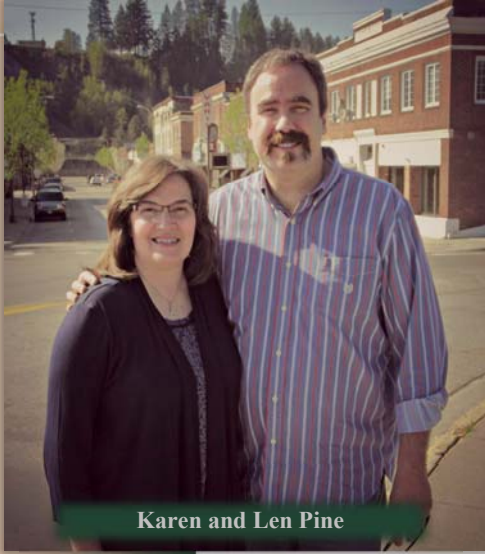


# Dr. Len Pine — PMU Field Director



Karen and Len Pine

## Quarterly Prayer Letter, July, 2016

Dear Faithful Friend and Supporter,

Grace and peace to you from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ. If there is one verse that I've been hanging on to over the past several months, it would have to be, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." (2 Cor. 12:9) The Lord has certainly shown His grace to both Karen and me during my bout with a herniated disc in my lower back that since February has kept me confined to my recliner much of the time, often under the influence of strong pain medications that rendered me mentally drowsy and physically weak.

Our loving Father has demonstrated His grace, first, by giving me my precious wife, Karen, with whom to walk through life. She has carried not only her work load, but has shouldered a great deal of mine when I've been unable to do anything. She has done it well, the Lord sustaining her, in the office, the church, and especially at home. She has been the Father's fingers in my life in so many ways these past few months it is beyond the telling. Yes, God has been gracious to me, and Karen has experienced God's grace in the strength that He has given her to do all these things.

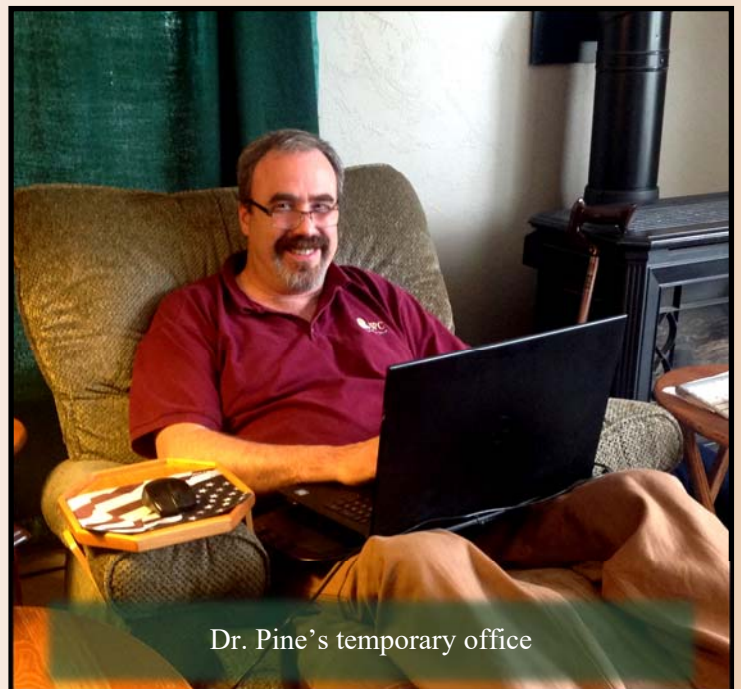
Second, the loving Heavenly Father has given me not only a faithful wife to care for me, but also our whole family. They've all been waiting on me hand and foot without complaint for months, even our houseguest

*"God's love to us has been apparent through the hearts and hands of His people."*

and PMU Office Assistant, Rachel McMillan. They've all had to adjust their life schedules around quite a bit, especially since I am firmly entrenched in the living room, smack dab in the middle of everything, but the only place that I have been able to be at all comfortable. I am thankful for the grace of God shown to me through them as they have ministered to me.

Third, I have seen God's grace in continually blessing the work here in Idaho. Very clearly, the recent growth in our local assembly, in both numbers and spiritual vigor, has nothing to do with my engagement in the process. By His grace, I have been able to continue preaching and counseling, but with greatly diminished vitality. When one is at "full strength," it can be easy to think that good results come from one's own efforts; this period of pain and weakness has been good for me, a gracious lesson in dependence and humility. And so I am thankful.

Fourth, my surgery was delayed for a couple of months. Yes, that is also God's grace, be-



Dr. Pine's temporary office





The Hiwale family

cause of the timing which allowed me to sit and rest as we have had the joy of two missionaries to preach for me during these weeks of recovery. Rev. Anup Hiwale, from Dehradun, India, is a precious friend who happens to be in the US this summer for the graduation of his son from high school. He has become a great friend of our congregation as well, and we are enjoying the whole family for about a month's visit. Anup preached for us last Sunday and has been covering all the midweek services as well. This very evening, as I write, his dear wife is in our kitchen teaching my son, Eli, some of the finer points of Indian cuisine. So many blessings! And Rev. Mark Baldwin and his wife, Wiwin, and their children are also visiting with us on their furlough from Cambodia. Mark will fill the pulpit this coming Sunday, and

we will be doing some training and have extended fellowship over the next week or so. If my surgery had been earlier, I would have been very busy during this time, with little time to experience the joy of sweet ministry from my brethren. That would have been a great loss, indeed.

Fifth, we have been experiencing God's grace through many, many friends around the country and the world who have written, called, sent cards, and otherwise communicated their loving concern for us. The assurances of prayers have been joined by tangible works of service, even here on our little farm. (A crew from the church completely fenced a new section of pasture for our sheep; another brother built needed new raised beds for our garden; another took care of a large burn pile on our property; another has made repairs to our kitchen cabinets – you get the idea!) God's love to us has been apparent through the hearts and hands of His people.

Finally, there's the grace God has shown me in the excellent result of the surgery itself. The excruciating pain and numbness in my right hip and leg are completely gone! The surgery site itself is healing nicely, and my strength and endurance is slowly coming back. I expect a full recovery in six weeks or so. As I endure some rehab over the next several months, I know that God's grace will continue to pour out on our family, reminding us that He is sovereign and knows what is best for us.

All of these things I would have missed had I been well this spring and summer. Thank you for your prayers for us here at PMU and at Providence BPC. The work carries on well because the Lord is in it, and He is the One who strengthens us to accomplish anything at all. May God richly bless you with His grace – though I pray that in His providence you will escape affliction to learn it!

For the Kingdom,

Len Pine



Rev. Baldwin is one of many helping hands at the Pine "farm"

*"Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all people." Psa. 96:3*

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