



Hello Friends!

The Lord has been at work since I last communicated with you (of course!). May through July I was able to travel and present at Highland presbytery (western North Carolina) regarding the ministry of Rural Church Development, attend a pastors conference in Waynesboro, NC, spend time at another gathering of small town pastors in Cleveland, GA, preach in several PCA churches in neighboring towns and states, and attend the PCA's annual meeting of General Assembly in Birmingham. At the assembly I was privileged to be a part of a panel discussion seminar on small town/rural church ministry. These have all been fruitful labors in sharing the vision of small town ministry as well as learning from much more qualified folks than I am.

Back in north Georgia, Holly and I have been continuing to get to know people in our three target communities. In June we hosted a neighborhood gathering of 20 people for a big batch of jambalaya. Those relationships are growing. We are meeting community leaders, business owners, locals, transplants, and more. Currently, we are planning two studies in two different communities to begin this fall. Please pray that these studies will be fruitful. Looking toward the future, we hope these will become core groups for church plants.

I have also begun a residency program with Evangelize Today. This relationship will help me to process the relationships I am building, delve into more relationships, and to challenge me personally in healthy internal growth. Specifically I am researching what it means to receive blessing and to say a blessing over others. I suspect there will be surprising results for me and those for whom I am called. I am excited to write more about this in the future.

Will Davis, the young Baptist pastor with whom I am meeting weekly, started his own journey with his online seminary. He has finished his first LAMP Seminary course. It is so thrilling to see him grow in his studies and his pastoral abilities.

On the home front we have been able to see the three kids at various times. Miller is continuing his barbering in Tuscaloosa. Maggie started her first job out of college working with women at First Presbyterian in Columbia, SC. Miles finished his summer intensive at Auburn and was accepted into the Industrial Design program.

Holly and I celebrate 30 years of marriage in mid August. Though our original plans were thwarted by airlines and COVID, we are planning on taking time away in September.



As always, we covet your prayers.

To donate to God's work through Rural Church Development, please visit [this link](#).
Many, many thanks to you all!

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Kindest Regards,

Corey Pelton

www.ruralchurchdevelopment.com