



VISTAS

For Independent Baptist Churches in the
Mountain West United States

NOV/DEC
2021

30 BY 30 VISION

Reaching America Baptist Partners led by Dr. Paul Hoover is asking God to help plant 30 new churches in FIVE REGIONS of the United States by the year 2030. That would be 150 new churches total across America. Please pray especially for the region the Inter-Mountain Baptist Fellowship is located in here in the West. We need to pray that the Lord would raise up 30 preachers to be led of God to take the step of faith and pray for an area that is need of a good Bible preaching church. And then pray for the Lord to help them go and plant a new work for God. We also need 30 churches to birth a new work. Please pray for pastors to have a vision to lead their church in this way. Please contact Dr. Paul Hoover to help with all of the details and support for such a venture. May we all have the "30 BY 30 VISION". Please send an e-mail to Dr. Hoover at: PaulDHoover@icloud.com

PASTOR RICHARD ALLEN DION IS HOME WITH THE LORD



Dr. Richard Dion 86, graduated peacefully from this life on November 11, 2021. He pastored one of our IMB Fellowship churches, Fairview Baptist Church of Great Falls, Montana for 46 years. During that time he was used of God to begin many ministries including the bus ministry, Treasure State Baptist Academy, and Mountain States Baptist College.

We will miss Pastor Dion and his vision and dedication to the work of the Lord. He was a true friend to many and did a marvelous work for the Lord. He is survived by his dear wife Kathleen and numerous family members. Please pray for them in the days ahead. We look forward to seeing Brother Dion again in heavens happy reunion day. Even so come Lord Jesus. His life verse was Joshua 1:9.

FIELD REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Dr. Paul D. Hoover (PaulDHoover@icloud.com)

Cindy and I are available to come to your church and share about Castle Rock Baptist Camp in the new year. We have some dates still open. We have a new DVD available to show the 60 year history of the camp and the plans for the future. We also would be happy to share about our wonderful fellowship of churches, the IMBF, and our vision for church planting missions. Use the email above to reach us.

Many are using our visit as a Camp Emphasis Sunday. It's not too early to get ready for camp in 2022.

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

Contact Pastor Hoover:
pauldhoover@icloud.com

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

A TRIBUTE TO DR. RICHARD DION

Submitted by Dr. S.C. Schearer, November 17, 2021

Dr. Richard Allen Dion was a modern day visionary, starting one of the first Independent Baptist Christian Schools in Montana. The Treasure State Baptist Academy started in 1972 and is completing its 50th year of operation. His desire was to give a quality education for his own children and the children of his church. After sending a number of college students east to Bible Colleges, he realized that these students were not coming back home to help evangelize the West, which was a great concern to him. He then decided to start a Bible College 'Teaching the West for the West'.

In 1981 Fairview Baptist Church started Mountain States Baptist College. This past spring the college celebrated 40 years of training men and women for the Lord's work.

He was a fearless leader of fundamentalism and had a great desire to keep his preacher boys in the West to win the West. Because of his leadership the Fairview Baptist Church was instrumental in starting three churches in the Great Falls Area. They are: Heritage Baptist Church of Great Falls, Valley, Baptist Church in Belt (no longer meeting) and Triumph Baptist Church of Great Falls. He was a visionary, a man of great tenacity and drive. He was also a man of integrity, marital faithfulness with a giving heart. He felt a great responsibility leading the ministries that God had given him. He never flinched in taking responsibility to provide leadership in the organizations he was serving such as the bus ministry, his church, his school and college and also many of the pastoral friends he mentored. If Pastor Dion saw something that needed to be done, he would make sure it got done.

He was faithful in his personal relationships. First to his precious wife Kathleen for over 65 years. Then his children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and his friends. Dr. Dion was "Mr. Reliable". If he made a commitment, he kept that promise. You never had to wonder if he was going to show up. He was always there. He followed through on commitments. His heart was inclined to invest in others. The best way to describe Brother Dion was that he gave his life in the service of others. He was not self promoting nor did he seek positions of leadership. But he was a leader.

I never met a man that knew more songs and choruses by memory than Dr. Dion and the best story and joke teller I have ever known. He loved to laugh, in fact, some of my favorite memories were sitting with him in his office telling stories of when he pastored the First Baptist Church of Elkton, South Dakota. I was blessed to follow him ten years after he resigned the church. He was a fierce competitor and he loved to be challenged.

You might say that Richard Dion was of the second generation of the Inter-Mountain Baptist Fellowship pastors. He followed men like Pastor Oliver Reed, Pastor Arthur Allen, Felix Runquist, Field Director of the IMBF, Pastor Fay Garner and Pastor Richard Engstrom. This has been my memory of Dr. Richard Dion.

By Dr. S.C. Schearer - Pastor of Heritage Baptist Church, Great Falls, Montana

PROVERBS 20:6

Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness:

**BUT A
FAITHFUL MAN
WHO CAN
FIND?**



INTER-MOUNTAIN BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP

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IMBFellowship.com | castlerockbc.org

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