



February 2026

In Church planting, ministry, and life in general, sometimes the storms overwhelm. Finances get tight, illness knocks you down, a friend breaks trust. Discouragement comes in many forms. While thinking about this, I asked a few friends (ministers from across our region) to share where they have seen God at work, that we might share these stories and encourage one another. Here are a few of the responses I got:

Ben Sanders of Venture Christian Church of Rapid City (SD), told of how he was contacted by the property manager of the Uptown Rapid Mall and offered a large space in the mall as a home for his young church plant, at less than they were paying at a local hotel. Now hundreds of people walk by his storefront window every day!

On January 4th a new church in Miles City (MT) held their first worship services! Crossroads Christian Church of Miles City is off to a great start under the leadership of Slade and Lynnette Bumgardner, along with Del and Cindy Hamon.

In Kalispell (MT), Brad Hooley spoke of how discipleship is taking off at Mountain View Christian Church. One family shared with him that they had walked their 12-year-old daughter through the Gospel and baptized her as she accepted Jesus as her King!

Several others told amazing stories of how God provided in the most amazing ways. Ryan Charest, minister at Real Life Christian Church in Sheridan (WY) shared how a friend at a local coffee shop came up to him and handed him an envelope with a financial gift and said "I see what you are doing, Merry Christmas!"

And at Paradise Valley Christian Church in Casper (WY), Charles Gwynn shared that they had 38 baptisms in 2025. Praise God!

Be Encouraged, our God is alive and active! We only need to keep our eyes on him!

Looking Up,

-Matt

Matt Branum

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Don't forget: Registration for our annual Church Leadership Conference is online at our website: www.npeachurchplanting.org

MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES, CHURCHES, & PLANTERS

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