



# — THE — CONSFORDS *to West Africa*



## April Prayer Letter

Easter Sunday morning at our home church in Center, Texas, is one of those gifts we do not take for granted. Danny and Bonnie were glad to have their mom home, and all of us were glad to be there together. It felt good to worship with our own people before heading back out on the road.

We left Wednesday morning for El Dorado, Arkansas, where Pastor JD Weido was hosting a missions conference. Brother Mark Haynes has spent more than 30 years as a missionary to the Navajo Nation, and his son, Brother Joel Haynes, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church in Arlington, Texas, was the featured speaker. Two Navajo pastors who had been saved and trained in the Haynes ministry were also there. Brother Weido introduced us as a Native American missions conference with one strange missionary to Ghana thrown in. He was not wrong.

From Arkansas, we drove through the night and pressed north to western New York. We had meetings in Little Valley with Pastor Pete Guadagno at Grace Bible Baptist Church and that evening in the inner city of Buffalo with Pastor Jim Donath at Evangelical Baptist Church. It is always a blessing to see men faithfully serving the Lord where the Gospel is needed most.

Monday through Wednesday we were in a missions conference at Center Road Baptist Church in West Seneca with my friend of 30 years, Pastor Fundy Tores. Between services, we suffered through Buffalo wings, pizza, and Texas Red Hots. Somebody has to do it.

After West Seneca, we crossed into Ontario and spent time with Brett and Janell Pennell in Barrie. Brett is the senior pastor of Heritage Baptist Church and principal of Heritage Christian Academy. Brett and Janell went to Oklahoma Baptist College with us, and Laura and Janell were good friends growing up. It was like being home.

Brett asked me to speak at the school, so I preached in the high school chapel, the elementary chapel, and three grade school classrooms. One boy in the fourth-grade class asked for my autograph. After I signed, he asked Laura to sign the same scrap of paper. When Laura asked him what he thought of our penmanship, he told her hers was perfect, but mine was more realistic. I have heard worse reviews.

That evening, Heritage Baptist Church was gearing up for HBCYC2026, their annual youth conference, expecting more than 600 teenagers. We stayed and helped. I ironed logos onto T-shirts, and Laura helped assemble program booklets. The building was spotless, and the people were working hard to make everything excellent for those students. Watching a healthy church pour itself into the next generation is something worth seeing.

We are grateful for every door the Lord continues to open. Thank you for praying for us as we travel, present the burden for Ghana, and trust God for what is ahead.

### Prayer Requests

1. Pray for the Consford family as we continue deputation travel.
2. Pray for Pastor Fundy Tores and Center Road Baptist Church in West Seneca.
3. Pray for God to provide the remaining support needed to return to Ghana.

*Joe and Laura Consford*

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