



## UPDATE FROM THE STEUERWALDS SERVING AT IRONWOOD

a home missions camping ministry assisting  
churches in the West

Greetings from the toasty Mojave Desert of California! To say that it was a packed spring and fall with many camps would be an understatement. We are very thankful for the many opportunities to serve churches, strengthen families, and reach people of all ages for our God.

Because my main focus at Ironwood is adult retreats, I was able to see a good number of adults accept Christ as their Savior, make decisions that strengthened their walk with God and with others. Having a front row seat to watch God work in the lives of campers is something that never gets old and always rejuvenates us to keep on keeping on. Our time on earth is short to have an impact on eternity, and I'm thankful to be able to do this each day.

Guess what activity we added to camp? An Escape Room! We used this activity several times for adult retreats this spring, and we enjoyed watching teams race against time to solve the clues to crack the code. We have also remodeled the Twig (Log Lodge), which will allow us to do another style camp called Tiny Camp. This camp is designed for groups that are smaller than 15 and will have more of a self-directed study that will be a part of each retreat. With all the new things at camp I'm reminded of what I've heard many leaders say, "You are either moving forward or backwards, but you are never staying the same." I am thankful for a ministry that desires wise stewardship while still improving on what we are doing to continue to serve the churches in the West through the camping ministry.

*Steve*

## FAMILY UPDATES

**Steve** — In addition to serving as Director of Adult Ministries and handling several of the promotional trips for Ironwood, Steve serves as a deacon at Faith Baptist Church of Cherokee Road and also works with their Recharge, the singles' ministry.

**Shannon** — Shannon continues to serve as administrator of Ironwood Christian Academy serving our staff families by providing education for their children. She also has the opportunity to work alongside other Christian schools in the West as Director of Educational Advancement for the Golden State Association of Christian Schools.

**Devon and Katie** — We just witnessed Devon marrying the love of his life, Katie, on June 14 in Green Bay, WI. They are in the process of moving to Hesperia, CA, where they both look forward to getting plugged in a church and community and being a light to the desert folks in that area. Devon is on track to enter the Sheriff Academy in October.

**Clayton and Tina** — Clayton helped us start 2019 with a huge bang as he married his best friend, Tina, on January 5. They married at the new Branding Chapel at Ironwood, which is fitting since they met and served together at Ironwood for two summers. Clayton is a marketing specialist for a company in Janesville, WI.

**Courtney** — Courtney is serving as a Rivertown counselor at Ironwood this summer and is thrilled and nervous for the responsibility of counseling teen girls. She will return to Maranatha Baptist University in the fall to continue pursuing an elementary education degree.

## 2019 THUS FAR

*Steve and I have been serving at Ironwood for 23 years. That's a long time! And, yet, it seems like yesterday we pulled up in a Uhaul as two youngsters fresh from Pennsylvania who had no clue how to live by faith except one day at a time. And here we are, over 8,400 days later, and God is still providing and still showing Himself faithful. God be praised!*

*God has definitely showed His strong arm to us in the past four years. With having our children so close in age (three kids in 38 months), we knew that college bills would be stacked for a few years. The thought seemed mountainous because it was; but to God, it was a molehill. We just witnessed our two boys graduate debt free! I'm not sure if my tears of joy in seeing them finish was because of what they accomplished or what God accomplished through the gifts of others, but what I do know is that everything accomplished was by God's immeasurable grace.*

*Summer camps are in full swing! We finished two weeks of staff training, and we are now fully entrenched in our youth camps. Already we are praising the Lord for salvation decisions and other life-changing decisions! We look forward to sharing with you more about our summer as the days go by.*

*Ironwood lost one of its co-founders in the late spring, but heaven gained a saint! We are honoring Chuck Chastain with a memorial service at Ironwood on July 27. That same weekend, we scheduled a summer wedding reception for Devon and Katie on Sunday, July 28. It will be a bookend type of weekend where we contemplate eternity and celebrate a new family. Join us for the reception, if you can! Please RSVP at [shannons@ironwood.org](mailto:shannons@ironwood.org).*

Shannon

<b>PRAISES</b> God's grace exceeding abundantly	<b>PRAYER REQUESTS</b> as the Lord sees fit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Two daughters added to our family, and they are GEMS! We love the girls God gave to our sons!</li> <li>⇒ Both boys graduated from Maranatha Baptist University debt free!</li> <li>⇒ Our children landing jobs that give them opportunities to learn, grow, and be a light to others.</li> <li>⇒ Courtney getting to counsel at Ironwood for the summer.</li> <li>⇒ Safety and provision for the many trips back to Wisconsin these past few months. Three total!</li> <li>⇒ A full spring with many campers, new groups, and decisions made.</li> <li>⇒ New school families at ICA which means new ministry opportunities!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Continued prayer that Shannon's aortic aneurysm would remain stable.</li> <li>⇒ Safety and health for our summer team.</li> <li>⇒ That the Lord would have free rein to work in the lives of the campers and staff this summer.</li> <li>⇒ Full camps and many spiritual decisions for this coming fall.</li> <li>⇒ Smooth application process for Devon as he pursues Sheriff Academy (He's halfway through the process!)</li> <li>⇒ A good response to Courtney's summer ministry scholarship (Ironwood meets up to half given and applies it to her college bill.)</li> <li>⇒ Sabbatical plans and finances for 2020.</li> </ul>



Clay and Tina's Wedding



The 2018-2019 Program Team



The 2018-2019 Teaching Team



Devon and Katie's Wedding



The brothers sharing a moment, and Courtney sharing her thoughts.



Summer Counseling Team 2019



We celebrate 26 years of marriage on July 31! And can you believe it? We are in-laws now! We are blessed!