Rick Barton Ministries

June 2026

"May All Who Come Behind Us…"

<u>What kind of Memorial are you leaving</u>? Over Memorial Day in Pitkin CO, we honored the men and women who gave their lives so that we might live in freedom.* Especially our military <u>and</u> the missionaries who left the security of homes and families to bring us freedom, physically and spiritually. Our theme was, "May all who come behind us find us faithful."

Hebrews 12:1-2 was our text. ***"Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us*** **(I think in heaven and as well as on earth)*, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <u>fixing our eyes on Jesus</u>, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."*** **Then we asked ourselves, are we leaving our children, grandchildren, and all those behind us a legacy of faithfulness, one that will inspire them to love and follow Jesus?**

<u>In May</u>, Melva and I had the privilege of leading two Celebrations of Life, preach in Livermore and Pitkin CO, meet with supporters and prayer warriors in Colorado Springs and Loveland CO, hold our Saturday Night Worship services, and spend two great days with Kai, our granddaughter in Edwards CO for "Grandparents Days". Two days after one of the Celebrations of Life, the Holy Spirit prodded me to go visit one of the family members. At first, I was reluctant but went and asked the man if he had given his life to Jesus. The Holy Spirit had prepared his heart, and we prayed a simple prayer of salvation in his office! He is faithfully reading God's word and will be baptized soon.

<u>Please Pray for These Upcoming Opportunities</u>:
May 31, September 27: Services at Pitkin CO Community Church
June 7 and September 6: Services at Tin Cup CO Community Church
June 21 "Buckboard Sunday" at the Esterbrook WY Community Church
July 9-12: Cattlemen's Days rodeo chaplain and Cowboy Church Gunnison CO
July 20-29: Family Reunion on Melva's home island of Kauai
August 6-7: RBM Board of Directors Meeting-Colorado Springs CO

***The message is available to watch on YouTube, just ask and we will send you the weekly link.**

401 Ute Lane Gunnison, Colorado 81230 (970) 641-3583
Email: barton@gunnison.com Website: rickbartonministries.org

"Alumni" News! During our ministry update lunches and preaching trip, we were blessed to meet with folks who had been involved in our ministry in the 1970s-1980s-1990s as well as 2000s! I had the privilege of performing the wedding for Neil and Dara in the mid-70's and they are still serving through their business and in jail ministry. Brian and Connie were with us in the 1980s and continue to serve in their church while two of their sons are in ministry overseas. Joe was in our FCA ministry at Western State in the 1990s when he gave his life to Jesus. He and Michal now serve in Ft. Collins CO where Michal teaches and Joe is the Athletic Director for Heritage Christian High School. I met with Caedmon, one of our current ski instructors who's back home in Colorado Springs. He has started a chapel service on top of the Mt Manitou Incline as well as a Bible study and prayer walk with friends. What a joy it is to see God at work in these faithful ones!

During the update lunches we go around the table and people share how the Lord is working in their lives. Wow! Jail ministries, feeding the hungry, leading Bible studies, Quilts of Valor for veterans and more. We praise God for each one of you!

First Responder New Testaments and Devotionals: Praise the Lord! The firefighter New Testaments are back in supply. Hundreds of copies have left the publisher and are enroute to chaplains around the country who have requested them. Joe, a New Jersey firefighter, reports that the day he received them he was able to immediately distribute them at a meeting. The Lord's perfect timing!

Family: Melva and I had a wonderful two days with our daughter Rebekah, son-in-law Nick, and granddaughter Kailani in Edwards CO. We visited her classroom and watched her in a play and dance recital. We are so grateful for all of our family and for your prayers for us!

Finances: Melva and I want to give a huge "shout out" to all of you who pray for and financially support us! God uses you to allow us to serve. We pray over each gift and letter we receive. And they always come at just the right time. Thank You!!

Answered prayers and requests: Your prayers are being answered! We are seeing a wonderful anointing on our meetings, both locally and out of town. Melva has had a MAJOR breakthrough health wise! After over a year struggling to adapt to CPAP she is sleeping through the night! The brain fog has disappeared, and her horrible neck pain has almost completely subsided, Praise the Lord! Requests: For the anointing of the Holy Spirit to be upon us as we share. For strength and wisdom as we hold 2 or 3 services most weekends as well as minister in the community. For the Lord to raise up workers that we can equip to the work of His service. For healing of my left knee and whether or not I should have it replaced ☹️.

By His grace, through the power of His Spirit, and to His glory, Rick and Melva

Rick + Melva

Blessings So Far in 2026- As of June 1

Ski Area Ministry:

1. **I finished 52 years of teaching at Crested Butte after doctors said I would never ski again! My right knee was destroyed in High School when I was hit by a car and windshield glass went under my knee.**
2. **I was blessed to pray with 80+ ski instructors on New Years Eve before our annual torchlight parade.**
3. **Our weekly Mountain Top Chapel Service averaged up to thirty, even with limited snow!**
4. **Our after-work Ski School Bible study averaged 6-10 Instructors, guests, and even locals.**

Delta Revival and Cowboy Church in February:

1. **We had wonderful services. We believe it was because of their focused prayer and fasting.**
2. **The Pastor of the Cowboy Church said he felt called to the ministry in our services 15 yr. before.**

Gunnison Saturday Night Worship Service and Videos:

1. **Our Saturday Night Worship service is a wonderful group averaging 25-30 and serves as an opportunity for people to use and develop their gifts.**

Missionary Support:

1. **All the offering received in our Saturday Night Worship Service is given to 20 missionaries, missionary widows, and small church pastors on a rotating basis. In 2025, our Saturday Night Worship service gave $57,000. Half of this amount came from former attenders who still sent support!**
2. **At the beginning of 2026 our largest Saturday Night donor, with our blessing, refocused their giving to the Chin people group, a persecuted Christian group in Myanmar. So far, the Lord has allowed us to continue to give approximately $2000 a month from Sat night, plus $10,000 from RBM.**
3. **We also give support to local young men and women from our valley who are going on mission trips or attending Christan colleges. So far in 2026 we have assisted six individuals and families.**

1st Responder New Testaments and Devotionals:

1. **In the past 12 years we have given out over 40,000 copies around the world!**
2. **So far this year we have sent New Testaments to British Columbia, NY, PA, FL, MI, CO, and more.**

Philippians 4:19:

1. **This is a fund we use to assist folks in need with food, housing, and uncovered medical related expenses such as travel and lodging. Our nearest major hospital is 65 miles away.**

Finances:

1. **By God's grace and your faithful giving, every bill continues to be paid.**
2. **In 2026 we have given more scholarships and mission trip support than ever before. Please pray the Lord continues to fill the gap left by those who have passed into glory or redirected their giving.**
3. **Several folks asked if we could initiate online giving which we did through our website, rickbartonministries.org.**

Prayer Requests:

1. **For the anointing of the Holy Spirit as we share and live the gospel!**
2. **Workers to assist, particularly in administration and occasional teaching.**
3. **Wisdom as to whether I should have my other knee replaced.**

THANK YOU! Rick and Melva

POB 1155 Gunnison CO 81230, barton@gunnison.com, 970-209-8006,



Mountain Top Chapel



Sharing at Our Mountain Top Chapel



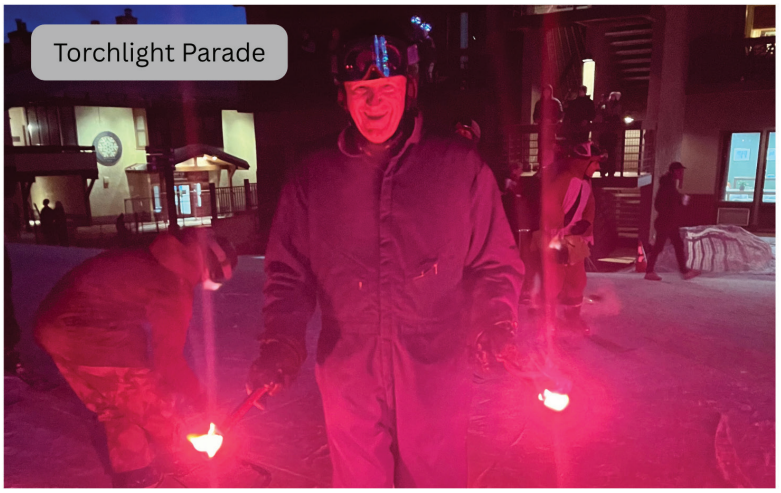
After Baptism



Retired Billy Graham associate Evangelist Ralph Bell



Three Generations of Alumni Serving the Lord



Torchlight Parade



Alumni Missionaries



Ministry Dinner in Colorado Springs



Ski Area Bible Study



Widows and Widowers Luncheon