Rick Barton Ministries

TO DONATE

November 2026

"Inconvenient" Blessings!

I really wasn't excited to go. We'd already had a long trip with our children and grandchildren, followed by a knee replacement, and now another trip involving long plane rides.

Have you ever done something reluctantly, only because you knew you needed to? And then, God worked a wonderful blessing through it! I think of Peter. He really didn't want to share the gospel with the Roman Centurion and his Gentile family (Acts 10). Yet, as the bond-slave of Jesus, he knew he should obey the Spirit's call. So, he went. And thank God he did. That was the first step towards all of us non-Jews coming to Jesus!

The trip was a reunion for Melva's extended family in Hawaii. The first reunion in 12 years, and of course we went. And what a blessing! Not only did we get to meet with family members Melva hadn't seen for years, but others we had never met. I was able to share with a newly appointed fire chief, a ski instructor from Oregon, and pray with a surfer who was ready to receive Jesus! We talked with Keonaona from our ministry over 40 years ago who is still serving Jesus with her husband on Oahu. And we were asked to share our testimonies and the plan of salvation during a family chapel service the last day.

To me, it was a reminder that just because God assigns us to something we aren't initially "excited" about, something "inconvenient", we should obey and look for His purpose for us in that situation.

October Happenings: Wow, a month full of blessings! In addition to the family reunion, we had the privilege of holding a "Celebration of Life" service for a Gunnison native. Over 300 people attended and I was able to share that Polly had given her life to Jesus and how they could as well.

Friday morning, October 23rd we shared with a high school Fellowship of Christian Athletes group in Aurora CO, came back and led our Saturday Night Service in Gunnison, then drove through a snowstorm to share in Cripple Creek, CO on Sunday morning. A special blessing was having two of the men from our Saturday Night worship group share their testimonies at the FCA meeting. We are soooo grateful for your prayers as we travel and share God's word! (By the way, videos of the FCA and Cripple Creek meetings are available on YouTube as is our Hawaii meeting.)

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First Responder New Testaments and Devotionals: After the service in Cripple Creek, a member of the Florissant Fire Department asked for a case of firefighter New Testaments. "I'm going to personally give one to each member of the department" he said. This year we've sent copies to British Columbia, New York, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Texas, Florida, Colorado, and more! Thank you for helping us provide these free of charge. Your support is really making a difference!

Upcoming: Lord willing, we will be holding services at Abell Community Church north of Guthrie OK *November 8-11*. Please pray the Holy Spirit will move in a wonderful way. *November 21* we will baptize two men who have recently given their lives to Jesus. What a privilege it is to see God work in these men's hearts! My knee replacement rehab is going well and mid to late December I should be able to return to teaching skiing part time and ministering on the mountain.

Family: As I write this, we are eagerly awaiting the birth of Riley Grace Barton to our son Tim and wife Sara. Please pray for a healthy baby and mom! Son-in-law Stephen (Joy) travelled this week to see and share with his father John who is in hospice care. Please pray for John's salvation. Their daughters Hannah and Bethan are visiting schools around London for next year's classes. In the UK they start focusing on schools of special interest to them in mid-high school.

Finances: We praise God for all of you who faithfully invest in God's work through us. It's been a year of many opportunities: from sending out 1st Responder New Testaments, sharing the gospel in four states, ministering at the rodeo, on the mountain, and in Celebrations of Life. All these and more are because the Lord Jesus led you to join us in prayers and financial support.! We take nothing from our Saturday Night services, it all goes to missionaries, missionary widows and small church pastors. Your support covers our needs. Thank You!

Prayer Requests:

1. For the anointing of the Holy Spirit as we share both locally and out of town.
2. For baby Riley Grace and mom Sara.
3. For continued health. Melva has fully recovered from her virus but still is dealing with pain in her hip and right leg. I have been fighting a sinus infection which has hampered my voice.
4. For our nation and our leaders!

We are soooo grateful to have you holding us up in prayer! May the Lord Jesus richly bless you!

By His Grace and to His glory, Rick and Melva

Rick + Melva



Sharing in Hawaii

Blessings So Far in 2026

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.**

Out of Town Ministry:

1. **This year we shared in Wy, CO, OK, and HI.**
2. **The Pastor of a Cowboy Church said he felt called to the ministry in one of 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 45,000 copies around the world!**
2. **So far this year we have sent New Testaments to British Columbia, NY, PA, FL, NH, MI, CO, TX 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 children's ministry, administration and occasional teaching.**

THANK YOU! Rick and Melva

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Mountain Top Chapel



Sharing at Our Mountain Top Chapel



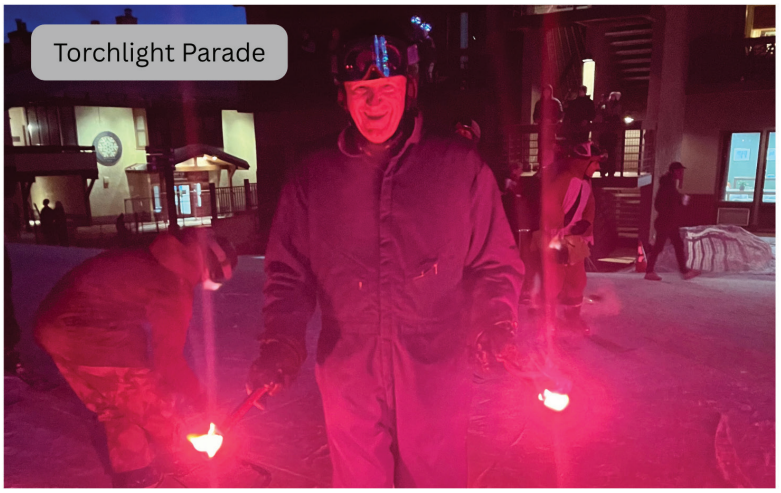
After Baptism



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