

Praise & Prayer from Mark & Gina Morris

April 2026

Spring in the desert!



The picture to the left is of our little apricot tree blossoms. A missionary family living here before us, Bill and Bonnie Reble, planted an apricot tree and from the fruit of that tree started another. Several years ago, Gina was able to get another little tree going from that same tree. It's been hard work to keep it going here in the desert, but it's grown into a nice-sized bush.

It seems the same with ministry sometimes! We plant, we water and we wait. We nurture a little more, water, and wait. Some years we see a great harvest and others, not much of anything. We're thankful God directs our paths, our hearts and minds. HE gives the increase and is in control of it all. If we don't keep this in mind we can quickly get into a downward spiral and end up discouraged.

"In this world you will have trouble..."

The last few weeks have been rough for Mark. In the span of three weeks, he's counseled an officer involved in having to shoot a suspect, counseled officers that were on scene of a fatal DUI involving three young kids, and is counseling other officers involved in a shooting that could've ended badly.

The second incident happened as we were heading to the chiropractor. Mark got news about the shooting involving several officers from the district Mark has been ministering in for the last 15 years. These are men and women he knows and sees regularly. When he got the news, it didn't sound good. We had flashbacks to his officer friend, Houston, that had been shot and killed in the line of duty a few years prior.

After our appointment, he rushed back to Crownpoint to get the unit they assigned to him and headed into Albuquerque to check on the two officers who were hit. On his way, the unit's transmission died just short of the hospital. Thankfully, he was able to get it going again and limped it in the rest of the way. When he arrived, he discovered that, incredibly, both of the officers only had minor injuries and would be released after a period of observation.

We are SO grateful for the LORD's hand of protection around them during this incident. Even though these were all horrible incidents, the Lord is using it to open doors. We're grateful that even in times of trouble we can "take heart; because HE has overcome the world."

Praises and Prayer Requests

- **We praise the Lord** that a lady Gina met at her quilters' guild wants to join us for church. [Pray for Gina to be an encouragement to her after the recent loss of her mother.](#)
- **Praise the Lord** that the ladies' ministry is still meeting biweekly.
- **Praise the Lord** for the summer ministry teams coming May through July. [Pray the Lord uses them to further HIS Kingdom, leading many to HIM and encouraging the believers.](#)
- **Pray for gentle, quenching rains.** We had record high heat in February and March, plus high winds. We haven't seen precipitation in a long while. You know it's bad when the wind starts blowing and the mountains disappear behind the dust!
- Our daughter Melissa was offered a seasonal job in Alaska this summer. [Pray for safety, protection and a good church for her to serve in while there.](#)
- **Pray for Rachel** as she expects her third baby in late August. [Pray for her & Logan and Kristin & Efrain to be godly parents as they raise their little ones.](#)
- **Pray for safety for Paul** as he serves as firefighter. He's been in some interesting situations! [Pray also for wisdom and discernment as he seeks the Lord's will and direction.](#)
- **Pray for Mark and me** as we continue serving THE KING here on the dusty rez. [Pray for us to keep Jesus as the focus in all we do and to allow HIM to direct our steps.](#)