

## ***Good News Reflections***

May 30, 2025

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*"Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable."*

Psalms 145:3 As most of you know, we were able to move into our new home on Christmas Eve – we are *thoroughly enjoying* living in a non-mobile home (that's mold-free)! We are amazed at God's provision, and are still getting used to this beautiful home being where ***we live!*** This miracle would not have been possible without the help and generous gifts of so many friends! We still have quite a few projects to finish, but are absolutely in awe of God's goodness!



As we were moving out of the 5<sup>th</sup> Wheel, we began to realize that mold was a ***bigger problem*** than we realized (*we are so grateful for God's timing*)! With Susan's sensitivity to mold, we don't plan to move back into the trailer. We want to sell it to someone who can remediate the mold and fix it up; we hope to get a smaller 5<sup>th</sup> Wheel in the future for our ministry travels.

## ***Health Update***

*"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee. Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength:"* Isaiah 26:3-4

As many of you know, I (Susan) have struggled with my health for *many* years (since 1995), but God has enabled me to push through the pain and fatigue to minister for Him. It has been amazing to feel the *strength of the Lord* as I minister through singing and ventriloquism in our meetings. Before and after the meetings, I have felt awful, but the moment I was on the platform, God carried me and gave me the strength to minister for Him. God has truly shown Himself strong in my weakness and has been the health of my countenance.

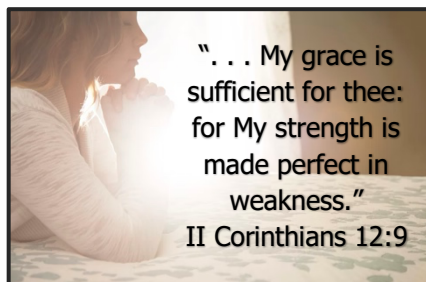


Over the past 5 years, the fatigue and pain in my body has intensified (due to long-term covid and black mold exposure). We've been hoping and praying that moving into our new home would provide some relief, but my pain level and weakness have continued to increase over the past few months (it feels like a huge storm is brewing inside my body)!

The *good news* is that since moving out of our 5<sup>th</sup> Wheel, the mold toxicity has started to improve (*although the numbers are still dangerously high*). We praise God for the small steps of improvement! The most recent blood work revealed that I *also* have ***Lyme Disease*** and ***Human Parvovirus*** (*which explains the unbearable pain I have been battling since December*). The constant pain in my shoulders, arms, wrists, and hands is so severe that Tim has to help me with routine tasks (getting dressed, taking a shower, combing my hair, and getting in and out of bed or my recliner). Often, my body “crashes” and I can hardly get out of bed for days.

My Functional Medicine doctor prescribed an aggressive regimen of treatment in February. Since starting these treatments, I have experienced some improvement in the range of motion in my shoulders. I have also had a couple of short spurts of strength – but then I’m back in the bed for several days with overwhelming pain and fatigue.

Tim took me for a drive the beginning of April (this was only the 3<sup>rd</sup> time I had been out of the house or 5<sup>th</sup> Wheel since October of last year). *The trip completely wiped me out!* My hands were literally trembling when Tim woke me up to take my meds the next afternoon.



The storm in my body is great, but God’s presence with me is ***much greater!*** II Corinthians 12:9 has so much more meaning and depth to me, as I am learning to work through some of the pain, and His Grace has indeed been sufficient. God’s *peace* in the midst of this storm has *truly* been a blessing! He has been so ***Faithful***, and His Word has ***so encouraged*** my heart!

Please pray with us that the treatment regimen will rid my body of these diseases. I so desire to minister alongside Tim in our meetings, and to be a part of what God is doing in hearts and lives.

### ***Peace in the "Pause"***

We have been ***earnestly praying*** that God would give us *wisdom* and *direction* concerning our meetings this summer! After much prayer, we realized that there was ***no way*** Susan could physically travel and minister this summer (and I can’t be away from her for weeks at a time). This will be the ***first time*** in 32 years that we haven’t been on the road doing week-long meetings throughout the summer. Thankfully, when we contacted these pastors, they were very understanding, and a few have already re-scheduled for next summer.

I was able to keep 2 of the week-long meetings for this summer, because they are close enough that I can drive back and forth throughout the week and still be home to care for Susan.

- *Camp Fairview, in Riceville, TN,*
- *Lakewood Baptist Church, in Harrison, TN.*

The Lord is also providing *week-end* meetings to take the place of some of the *week-long* meetings we had to cancel. It has been very challenging having to minister this winter, spring, and now summer without Susan - I sure **miss** ministering with my partner and best friend!

We do not see this *season* in our ministry as us quitting. *Oh! No!* We see it only as a **pause**. And in this pause, God is giving us His perfect peace throughout these difficult, painful times. Our prayer is that this will be a year of healing and that the Lord will give us many more years of ministry together, reaching young people and their families for Christ!

### Winter and Spring Meetings

I have the privilege of teaching Bible *every Tuesday* for an after-school *Bible Club* (Good News Club) at Niota Elementary School, in Niota, TN. What a privilege our team has to minister to these precious young people each week during the school year!



On January 21<sup>st</sup>, I had the privilege of preaching high school Chapel at our Christian school – ***Fairview Christian Academy***. It's special to us being able to invest in the lives of these young people – we've watched many of them grow up through the ministries here at ***Fairview***.

On January 22<sup>nd</sup>, I was able to minister with our friends at ***Pleasant Grove Baptist Church***, in Trenton, GA. Their *Master Club* on Wednesday evenings is always well attended – they're doing an awesome job of reaching young people! We look forward to being with them again next year.



With Susan not being able to travel right now, I'm trying to do better at visiting local Churches (as well as visiting many of our supporting Churches). Susan can handle me being gone for a day or so, but not more than that.



While visiting **Fairview Baptist Tabernacle**, in Sweetwater, TN (on January 26<sup>th</sup>), I realized that I knew the Children's Pastor from another Church. I really enjoyed the fellowship, as well as getting to do a Gospel illusion in Children's Church.

**Christian Bible Fellowship**, Evensville, TN (February 16<sup>th</sup>, April 6<sup>th</sup>, and May 18<sup>th</sup>)



**Christian Bible Fellowship** has been a huge blessing to us (Pastor Smithson, Susan, and I were at school together at *Tennessee Temple University* in the 1980's). Not only has **Christian Bible** supported our ministry for many years, but they have also generously given special gifts on several occasions to help us. God has used them to be such an encouragement and blessing to our family and ministry! Pastor Smithson is also allowing me to preach for him regularly - giving him and Mrs. Marla more time to travel and visit with their grandkids (*and of course, their children*).



I thoroughly enjoyed my time of ministry at **Calvary Baptist Church**, in McMinnville, TN, on April 27<sup>th</sup>. I had the privilege of preaching in the morning service; and for the evening service, Pastor Fittis requested that I do something that would help them reach and teach children – so, I taught, "Having a Heart to Teach". They are doing such an amazing job in the McMinnville area.



What a blessing it was to minister with our friends at **Summer City Baptist Church**, in Summer City, TN on May 25<sup>th</sup>. We have ministered with them off and on for many years. I look forward to being with them again next May (*hopefully, Susan and Dusty will be able to join me*).



### **The Ice Cream Shop**

It had been about a year since I was able to get my hair cut. Due to the intense pain in my shoulders, arms, and hands, Tim has had to comb my hair. My hair had gotten quite long, so it was a lot for him to comb (it hurt *both* of us – Ha!).

Rachel was home for a couple of days the beginning of April, so I asked her to take me to get my hair cut (Tim helped me get dressed and into Rachel's car). We had to wait about an hour for our appointment, so we decided to stop at the *Sweetwater Creamery*. On our way in, there was an older couple sitting just outside the door. I asked them how they were doing, and then they asked me. I said, "***I'm so blessed!***" And then we went into the creamery.

As we were getting ready to pay for our ice cream, the employee told us that it was already paid for. We looked around and didn't see anyone we knew - then we saw the man we had spoken to on our way in, at the register. As we walked outside, I turned and said, *"If you are the one who paid for our ice cream, thank-you!"* He reached over and gave me a big side hug and said, *"Anyone else would have been complaining, but when I asked you how you were doing, you said you were blessed!"* (I was walking with a cane with ***much*** pain and difficulty). His sweet gesture was like the Lord saying, *"There ya go! Keep your focus on Me and My blessings."* ❤️



### **Please continue to pray for:**

- Complete healing for Susan,
- Meetings for Tim, and
- God's provision during this time

It is truly amazing how God has provided for our needs. We thank Him ahead of time for how He will continue to provide.

May God bless you as you continue to serve Him!

Reaching Families for Him,

*Tim & Susan* ☺

Tim and Susan Vermaas

### **Summer Meetings**

June 1 Way of the Cross Baptist Church, McDonough, GA – Kick-off for their VBS (we were scheduled to do their VBS June 1-5).

July 6 Christian Bible Fellowship, Evensville, TN

July 7-11 Camp Fairview, Riceville, TN

July 20-24 Lakewood Baptist Church, Harrison, TN

August 9 Christian Bible Fellowship, Evensville, TN