

# Wade's September 2024 Letter



The leaves have not started to turn to fall colors yet but there is a feeling of fall in the air. The upcoming election has much of our attention but as for those in the nursing homes day to day survival is usually uppermost in their minds. Some are acutely aware of their age and the brevity of life. Others are consumed with homesickness and beg to go home. It is especially hard for those who's cognitive decline keeps them from truly understanding their situation.

## Bible Studies

We have done a series of Bible Studies on heaven and what it will be like. Of course that presents a wonderful opportunity to present the Gospel. Those who are not saved need to hear it again and again. Those who are saved need reminders to keep those pesky doubts from coming in. We are now studying through the book of Hebrews.

## The Functioning Body of Christ

There are several devoted and mature Christians who automatically begin serving when they arrive in the Nursing home. One man is called upon to lead in prayer for each meal in the assisted living home. One lady in the assisted living reached out to those in the nursing section so effectively the Nursing Home staff gave her a badge to wear which said "Hospitality." She has since struggled as some residents she cared for passed away. A couple of other ladies offer their assistance in pushing wheel chairs as well as spending time visiting. It is amazing to watch those members of the Body of Christ step up and serve where they are taking the limited opportunities available. Their attitude is so good even while battling with declining health issues of their own.

One gentleman has been in a wheel chair for 30 years after an auto accident. Recently he has spent time in the hospital with declining health issues. Before that he led a devotional time with some Christians who could attend. He used the Daily Bread devotional as a guide. I am sure these faithful servants will receive wonderful reward from the Savior for their loving selfless service.

## My Health

I continue to get injections into my eye. It has stabilized the deterioration of the macula. At my age my father had lost his sight in both eyes. Thank the Lord for the technological advances that now are used to stabilize my own vision. My allergies have diminished as the doctors have found medications that work for me.

Many of you do not know I have had epilepsy since age 14. Seizures have been controlled with medication since age 26. In spite of increasing age seizures are still under control. Thank You to the Lord Jesus who has enabled me to live and serve Him for so many years. (78, if you were wondering).

## Discipleship

The young man I have been having a Bible Study with spent most of the summer working for the city. They sought him out because they knew He would be reliable. With his summer job we have been only able to meet twice this summer. Now that School has started and his schedule has stabilized our weekly Bible Study will begin again.

## Outreach at the County Fair



In addition to my regular Nursing Home ministry our church, Berean Bible Church, had a booth in the local county fair. The purpose was to make the church more visible in the community as well as to make the gospel available to anyone who showed interest. We ordered a wide variety of Gospel tracts and some DVDs for distribution. In addition, our pastor had an idea of



making wooden blocks for children to play with. Three of us spent time making these special blocks on our table saws. The children got very involved and built a number of interesting structures. That gave us opportunity to interact with them and to urge them to take tracts home with them. A few adults also stopped to visit. We met Christians from other churches and built some good relationships with them. We can see the need for improvements in the way we engage the public as well as the way in which the Fair board can improve. We pray for those who were touched with the Gospel. Only the Lord knows the eventual outcome.



Our next outreach will be at the local car show. Please pray for open hearts and ministry opportunities.

## Surprise Tornado

Last July, while I was doing visitation at Mitchell Care Center, A tornado warning was sounded and a severe storm ensued. I helped the staff secure the residents by moving them away from the windows and closing blinds and curtains to protect them from possible breaking glass. The storm passed without the tornado actually hitting the facility. But the staff seemed to appreciate my going through the storm with them. The next time we gathered for a Bible Study there were nurses helping move residents to the Bible Study who had never helped before.

(Sorry, I didn't get a picture for you. I was kinda busy).

## New Karaoke

The Karaoke you see to the right is new. It replaces my old one that was over 10 years old and had started to malfunction. With a karaoke can play recorded hymns for prelude and postlude. In addition, I can play hymns to sing by for over 90 beloved hymns. It is an extremely important part of nursing home ministry. Thank you for helping to provide it.



*Thank you so very much for all of your loving help.*

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