

A look into our lives and ministry



## *Wadsworth Window*

### *Summer 2018*

Crunch, crunch went my feet as I walked across the lawn. No, it wasn't winter. It was summer. I was walking on newly fallen hail. We have had four hail storms in Lingle this summer. None of them have caused great damage but each one has bruised and chewed away at the garden. The plants look ragged and unhealthy but it appears we will still have a good harvest, albeit later than usual. April keeps the flowers in the front yard going. I have taken over the care of the lawn north of us. The homeowner has multiple sclerosis but is still uninterested in spiritual things. We have had effective ministry to three of the previous owners of that house. Two of them received Christ. It seems the Lord brings the people He wants us to reach. Thus, we have hope our ministry to the current owner will also bear fruit. We have other neighbors who are facing health difficulties. One man has severe back problems. He can only walk with a walker. The wife is employed as a nurse. He has no health insurance but neither is willing to seek medical help. We taught their children in our Backyard Bible Club years ago. They are now grown and left home. The parents have always held us at a distance not being interested in spiritual things. Please pray the Lord would open their hearts for a Bible Study at home.



In the nursing home ministry, I have begun a weekly Bible Study with a man who has Attention Deficit Disorder. He professes to be saved and it seems to me he is. But he needs a solid foundation of assurance for his faith. He is very interested in spiritual things but needs much patience and guidance to be able to learn from the Bible. We are studying I John.



A Catholic lady who was born in Germany during World War II is interested in the Bible and does a lot of reading on her own. She complains that she cannot understand the Bible. She has some relatives with a Charismatic background. They have told her she needs to receive Christ and then the Holy Spirit will enable her to understand the Bible. Of course, that is true but the Holy Spirit also enlightens people to enable them to come to Christ. I have given her literature that will help her understand what she reads in the Bible. She has received it joyfully. At this point she does not see herself as a sinner in need of salvation. Please pray for conviction, illumination and salvation.



Many years ago, a young Catholic man attended a Baptist Church, heard the Gospel and got saved. He elected to remain in the Catholic Church. I met him in the nursing home and wondered about his spiritual life and ministry. He uses a devotional book along with his Bible daily. He prays regularly. As we visited it seems to me his prayers are real and not ritualistic. He also talks to fellow residents about placing their faith in Christ and he has given comfort to at least one man as he went through the dying process. I visit this man monthly and we have good fellowship around the Word. He looks forward to my visits. Personally, I would not be able to stay in the Catholic Church had I been a Catholic. But God uses His people in various ways and various places to accomplish His will.

Some of the time I get to know Alzheimer's residents before the disease process greatly affects them. Generally speaking, the ones who have been faithful Christians do not lose their love for the Word of God even though they become very confused and unable to communicate. After listening to them for a while I begin to read the Scripture. They become silent and listen. The familiar words of the Bible still penetrate their hearts. Sometimes they try to express appreciation for the Word and their sentences are garbled and confused but their appreciation is unmistakable.

One aspect of nursing home ministry not often mentioned is helping residents communicate with the nurses. Nurses are very busy people with many responsibilities. Some of the elderly have lost their ability to make themselves understood, or they don't understand who to talk to, or they are too embarrassed (the men) to explain where it hurts. It is a great help to the residents to have someone help in this area.



My nephew Dave, is a professional cowboy living in Dillon Montana. He has been hospitalized with pancreatitis caused by gall stones that made the bile back up into the pancreas. As I write this he has been in the hospital a week and it appears he might be there weeks longer. His wife Jessica has been struggling with health issues of her own. They have two young children. Jessica's parents have come to care for the children. Please pray for them. They have a long hard road ahead for healing and financial need. They are faithful Christians.



April's brother Glen Douglas and his wife Donna came all the way from Alaska to spend a week with us. We had a wonderful time with them. Together we explored some of the prominent Oregon Trail sites in our area.

April is getting to know the local hospital staff very well it seems. She spent three days in the hospital with a constricted intestine. It was discovered her potassium level had dropped too low. Her blood tests for several years indicated she was borderline but the doctors never seemed concerned. Now her potassium level is mid-normal range and above. She is feeling better than she has for several years. Praise the Lord! While in the hospital she met two nurses from Kenya. One saw April's Bible and let April know she also is a follower of Christ. She was raised by Christian parents in Kenya. She and April had a great time of fellowship.

*Thank you!*

*Thank you, each one, for your prayers and your financial support. We know that many of you make real sacrifices to support the work the Lord has given us to do. We could not serve the Lord the way we do if it were not for you. You shall share in the heavenly reward. Your service to the Lord will not be forgotten.*