



Dear beloved family & friends,

More than one of you have asked for an update recently. I was thinking of doing one, but it takes time to gather my thoughts. So much has been happening that my brain is having trouble keeping up with it all! God is so so so good!

Claudia sent some good questions: First, How's it going?

First of all, thank you to those who have been labouring in prayer for God's will and good pleasure. He is so on it! And another huge thank you to those of you who have been sending offerings! Plus, a huge thank you to those of you who have been donating food, kitchen supplies, toiletries, toothbrushes, etc. Don & Dolores Memeo have been donating FRESH fruit & veggies from their organic garden & trees. They also donated 3 bibles, one of which was gifted the very next day to a woman who's been in counseling.

Speaking of bibles, I was in the NLWM office at home and came across the supplies I used to keep in the back of my car for the homeless population. Lots of stuff for the ministry house ... especially WHITE SOX, toothbrushes, gospels of John, 2 NASB bibles + 1 Gideon NT & Psalms! A gold mine!

So, back to opening day, March 8th which I already shared ... we have been open ever since, except 3 days when I had to work on paperwork for Phil our clergy tax guy. Karen was of huge assistance during this time, so between the 3 of us, we got it all done! Richard Ivey donated the money needed to pay Phil.

Our beloved Karen gave her notice in December that 2019 would be her last year doing our books. She has been such a blessing. I haven't had to even think about it for I'm guessing 15+ years! We have been praying for someone to take her place ... by June, we had no one. Richard Ivey called to see how our search was going. When I told him we didn't have anyone yet, he said he'd do it! Richard was one of our treasurers until he resigned and moved to Texas. He kindly agreed to be part of our Advisory Team, so I was shocked that he'd want to do the accounting. He said he's adjusted quite well to life in Texas and had plenty of time to do the accounting. Rejoice with me ... Richard is an amazing man of God, a dear friend, and most of all, he's a very trustworthy SENTRY!* Very valuable to the Kingdom, and to NLWM. Karen's been helping him through the transition period ... so we haven't lost Karen. She remains a dear friend. ❤️

2. How many people are coming and using your services? Here's a brief update on our guests ...

Prayer: Carole & Barbara's Aglow ladies have been meeting in the Prayer Room about once a month. Powerful times of worship and intercession! Such a JOY to have them praying for us all these years! They've been a part of this vision through prayer and offerings since we had The Upper Room on Main Street in Murphys!!! That's a long time ... so faithful at the place of prayer! Their last meeting they brought a whole bunch of supplies for the pantry!!! One dear lady left a cash offering. Since I am present 3 days a week, I am also in intercession most of the time as well. The prayer room is available for those who want to come in and pray. It's a quiet place w/a stereo for worship music. Guests can spend as little or as much time needed being

alone with God. If you'd like to reserve it for yourself, or your group, email me. I am also seeking the Lord about teaching intercession to those who are feeling called, but not sure what "that" means ...

Counseling: 7 women ... I love how Jesus ministers to each one individually! He is so faithful!!! Truly He is omnipotent, omnipresent, and omniscient!

Pantry: Since opening day, the pantry has supplied food to 41 people. Several accepted prayer, and some have been receiving counsel.

21 folks have dropped in due to "curiosity" so I give them a "tour" along with a brief description of what God is doing, and offer prayer before they leave. Most receive! Of these, 3 of them have been bringing in food for the pantry. One of the curious folks was a man from out of state whose parents owned the building in the 70's when it was an auto shop ... he had a lot to share with me about the building! There was once a little kitchen in the back left corner where his mother made dinner every night after they closed the shop down! He is pleased with what we're doing and even called his Dad who also lives out of state to tell him, and "show" him around via cell phone! That was fun. ☺ He and his wife also accepted prayer. \o/



We are meeting many people from the Isaiah 54, 58 & 61 Population! Folks just like those we've ministered to out on the streets for decades. I always wanted a place to bring them even if they were dirty. Our decorating goal was "peaceful, practical, and easy to clean" hence, vinyl planking, leather couches & loveseats. It's definitely meeting those needs.



For instance, a couple of weeks ago, 2 people came in who looked like they'd been working in the fields behind a plow all day long. Dusty, dirty, sticky, grimy, sweaty, et al. I was delighted that after getting their food, they sat down in the little greeting area and visited for about 45 minutes! The guy that brought them in loved the book Carrie got for the coffee table ... all different "church signs" from around the country. A special time with Jesus in the middle of us. After they all left, it was easy to clean off the couch with Lysol disinfectant. Looks brand new!

One of our guests is deaf so I was pleased that my "mask" shows my mouth so she could easily read my lips. I hope to see Jesus open her ears to hear soon! Hey! Yes Lord! \o/



3. How are the volunteering efforts working out?

We are officially open 9 hours a week. Thus far, I am able to handle the number of people easily. Thus far, we've had no more than 7 people at a time. Most commonly, 1, 2 or 3 at a time. In July, only 1 person came in for food the whole month! Usually it's 1-2X a month. The last week is the busiest. I love it when they return with friends and family.

After receiving their food, prayer is offered ... one lady did not know what that meant. She'd never heard of Jesus, and had no idea how to pray. Jesus is changing all of that now. Her last time in, she requested

prayer! \o/ Another lady has been coming in for counseling on a regular basis. Now after around 3 months, she's getting really good at going to Jesus for all her needs! This is what it's all about ... teaching people how to access Jesus through their own personal relationship with Him! A homeless man came in "curious" as to "what" we were all about ... Ronda and I were doing "guitar practice" that day, so she and I were able to pray for him after getting him some food. Ronda was also here one day when a lady came in for counseling ... she joined us in singing "Way Maker" as we were wrapping up our guitar session, and Jesus gave Ronda a very specific word for her ... totally right-on for her future!

Speaking of "guitar practice" ... a little testimony here: About a year ago, my daughter Carrie asked me if I was playing guitar anymore. I had quit due to the time restraint taking care of my parents, plus arthritis in my hands. She wanted to start playing again and asked if I'd help her with it. I told her I'd pray about it. About 3 months later, Ronda (who didn't know Carrie) also asked me if I was playing. I told her the same, I'd pray about it. I had been missing playing guitar in my own devotional life, and wondered if I could ever play again. Fast forward >>> Carrie, Ronda and I started doing guitar practice every other Thursday of each month! My hands are fine now! TU Jesus! \o/

Yesterday, I started teaching beginning guitar on the alternating Thursdays. I am not a great guitarist and know very little about theory, so I basically get people started just as Rod Johnson got me started back in the 1970's ... learning enough to worship! First song is "Holy Is The Lord" Em - Cmaj7 throughout! It's always fun to be able to learn a song right away! Definitely motivating. (I posted to our local FB page requesting "loaners" or donations of "acoustic" guitars [nylon or steel] that might be sitting in someone's closet or attic untouched for years.) TU Jesus! We are inviting anyone to join our guitar sessions ... taking our time, letting Jesus lead, we often end up in worship and prayer.



We were able to get the parking lot done! It was pretty sorry looking with weeds, paint, and fertilizer stains (my fault). A guest backed into our sandwich board sign (in front of the telephone pole) and broke it. [I had backed into that pole too!] Thankfully, Tobias was able to salvage it. The lady suggested that we mark off the area where she had parked. We didn't have a handicap parking place yet, so Aberle Asphalt was chosen

to do the job following a very good estimate. The parking lot now matches the front of the building. Handicap parking is to the left of the front door.



The county also required that we put up a PARKING ONLY sign on the strip we had to purchase in front of our building, as well as the building next door. Otherwise, we'd have to pay taxes on it. So Walt at Gateway Press was kind enough to make the sign which had been approved by the county.



4. How am I holding up?

Well, I gotta tell you, I haven't had to get dressed up, put on make-up and commute to work for a very long time. I've pretty much worked from the road, out of the back of my Honda, at a Starbuck's, or my parent's house via laptop, telephone, even "creekside" counseling sessions! So, putting in that extra time to prep and travel does add about 2 hours to my day so getting up at 7 a.m. to be there by Noon – 3 p.m. w/extra time spent on days when folks drop in for counseling or prayer. Sometimes I don't get home until between 6 – 8 p.m. On Fridays, I do office work ... usually in my jammies! ;)

Part of this vision has included taking people to church. Rebecca & Wyatt Trammell have a very similar vision and have welcomed me to bring our guests. Such a good fit! They are now pastoring the church where John and I were helping out back in the 90's so it's like going back to an old home.

Prayer needs: THE ORGANIC GARDEN! I haven't heard back from Dion, our landscape designer ... he's very busy doing big jobs. Please pray for wisdom. I don't want the money we've saved up to sit in the bank w/o gaining interest if it's not going to happen this year! Thanks!

So much has been happening, but you get the idea. Jesus is doing what He loves to do and I am so happy to watch and listen! Thank you for your prayers and offerings, encouragement and obedience to the call of God on your own lives! Great and mighty are His deeds, ever flowing is His love and mercy, through the precious Blood of Christ, Amen! \o/ Here's a prayer song to sing over you and yours, as well as our nation:

"The Blessing"

<https://youtu.be/Zp6aygmvm4>

The Lord bless you and keep you
Make His face shine upon you
And be gracious to you

The Lord turn His face toward you
And give you peace
Amen, amen, amen

May His favor be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family and your children

And their children, and their children

May His presence go before you
And behind you and beside you
All around you and within you
He is with you, He is with you

In the morning, in the evening
In your coming and your going
In your weeping and rejoicing
He is for you, He is for you

Amen, amen, amen

He is for you!

Shoulder to shoulder, grace upon grace, much love and appreciation,
Betty & the NIwm Team

* sen • try n. A guard, especially a soldier posted at a given spot to prevent the passage of unauthorized persons. The duty of a sentry; watch.

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