

Dear Faithful friends and Ministry Partners:

February 2017

Thank you as always for your prayers. We have had a month of travel in the USA, which always comes with its challenges. I continue to need prayers for my health as my condition remains uncertain. We do need prayer every day and are thankful to each of you as you pray for us.

A trip to Africa always leaves us with jetlag. We are sleepy all day, then wide awake all night. Staying very busy helps this condition and we certainly did that. Two days after arriving home I had to get a blood test for cancer, then see the surgeon 2 days later. The next day, we left for 3 1/2 weeks of visiting churches (and our kids and grandkids on the way). Some of the bags from Kenya were still waiting to be unpacked and restocked when we left.

My blood test for cancer came back at below the detectable level. This is the best possible outcome for now, but we must wait for more tests to know anything for sure. Please join us in praying that all the tests will be negative and I will have a surgical cure with no re-occurrences. My next test will be more sensitive and is scheduled for April. Please pray for this.

My surgeon released me to lift again and it is a good thing he did because the next day I had to change 2 flat tires on the roadside; one on the motorhome and one on the trailer we use to haul our car. The trailer tires were 12 years old, so I thought we might have a problem. I brought 2 spares, but over 3 days had 4 blowouts on the trailer and 2 on the motorhome. Oh well, we got where we needed to be and I found out I can still change even a heavy tire (and accomplish several other roadside repairs. Oh the joys of travel!).

We were greatly disappointed this month to have to cancel the March trip to Honduras. We simply had no volunteers for this trip. Although Linda and I might do medicine with just the two of us (and have before...), we cannot transport enough medicines and supplies without at least a few other volunteers. The closing date to sign up for any trip is 6 weeks in advance (because of airfare pricing), but the planning begins well before that. Linda spends many hours looking at and ordering medicines, glasses, sunglasses, airfare, and so on (she is the advance planner between the two of us). When we have to cancel a trip, supplies and glasses must be diverted to a different trip. Due to expiration dates, some medicines are simply wasted since each government has different rules on what shelf life they will let into the country. We are looking forward to a day when others will join us full time and volunteers will be enough to never need to cancel a trip. Of course, a cancelled trip is also a disappointment to the missionary and national pastors we work with, and a lost opportunity for souls. Please pray for more volunteers for each trip, and pray about being a volunteer on a trip (or perhaps one trip each year).

Please pray for us as we plan future trips, even into 2018. We have gotten lots of emails from a pastor in Ghana, begging us to bring a team there. This would require a pre-trip this year sometime. We laugh about Ghana because when we were in Guyana, we would often get mail 3-6 months after it was sent with a sticker which said, "missent to Ghana, W. Africa." Even recently, mail which we sent to Guyana was missent to Ghana. "We might as well go to Ghana," Linda said. "Our mail has been there already!"

Please pray for us, each prayer is a blessing to us and we are grateful for each of you who pray.

In Christ,
The Wallers
Unworthy but Willing