

Hello Friends,

I am planning to get out a quarterly prayer-line next week, but wanted to give you all a couple of items for prayer that are more personal.

“When it rains, it pours”, as my mother used to say: As most of you know, our son, Anders, was in a rollover vehicle accident in which one of the boys in the vehicle was thrown out and died. This happened while I was in Michigan and my husband Dan lived through the major trauma of that week with Anders and the other parents. By time I got home, things were fairly settled and Anders seems to be doing okay. None of the four boys who lived had anything more than soreness and maybe a sprain or two. We’re grateful for the boys who are okay and remembering the family that lost their son so tragically.

But, last week we got the news that my husband Daniel has a cancerous tumor in his right colon. It’s the common colon cancer and at a moderate stage right now. Both a cat-scan and blood work indicated that it hasn’t spread into other organs, but there are some nodes poking out of the colon. He’s scheduled for surgery on Friday, April 11, where they’ll do a right colon re-section (take it out and reattach it). After surgery, they’ll determine what chemotherapy is necessary, based on what they find in the nodes. We’re encouraged about all of the good reports we’ve heard about the prognosis for this type of cancer in this fairly early stage – but surgery and cancer are always concerning. We are experiencing wonderful support from the Christian community here, for which we are grateful. The anemia he was experiencing from the tumor in his colon likely contributed to the couple of days where he felt light-headed and disoriented this January which we interpreted more as a mental health (stress) than a physical issue, at the time

We are also grateful that things are going much better for Dan with his work. His relationship with his supervisor has greatly improved and they are working together to go through the disciplinary process with a very problematic employee. His other employees have shown a lot of caring and support as they heard the news about Dan’s cancer.

Foundation work is also going well, all things considered. We’ve got the end of our operating reserve kind of “looming,” but are still going at this all rather deliberately, rather than panicking. I’m less hopeful that our land development deal will go through. And as this drags out, at least one of constituent organizations is getting nervous and antsy, which is not helpful, especially since someone from there appears to be talking about. However, I’m excited about where we seem to be headed as an organization – really feeling like we’re finding our place in the ministry scheme here. Please pray for our new board members, particularly Ed T. Begay, who has agreed to be Vice-President, with an eye to being our next president. As you can imagine, having someone with his experience and stature, former speaker of Navajo Nation, has both its advantages and disadvantages. So, please pray for him and our board as new leadership rocks our boat a bit.

I still plan to be in Michigan the first week of May for my denominational board meeting, adding a few extra days to meet with people in GR.

Love and blessings!

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