



Ministry Updates

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Taste and See ([Psalm 34:8](#))

The waiting room of a hospital Emergency Room (ER) afforded hours to reflect on the **breath of life** that our marvelous Creator breathed into humanity. We spent more than 48 hours waiting and being treated in that setting. Debbie re-experienced her allergic asthmatic reaction, requiring a nebulizer treatment for the first time in nearly twenty years. The whole process was complicated as her secondary blood pressure (BP) spikes also required treatment. The regular urgent care location where she previously headed off reactions with early intervention did not want to treat her due to her heightened BP, which merited monitoring. The consulted health personnel desired to treat with steroids but were reticent to provide them at first. Such treatments can spike the BP even more! On Verlin's visit with her on the second occasion, they overcame that reluctance. Her circumstantial hypertension was explained to be a secondary symptom. Eventually, she spent Monday overnight in the Cookeville ER and Tuesday morning hospitalized. Later, at midnight Friday morning, Verlin returned her for treatment because her paroxysms of coughing prevented both of us from sleeping for several days as he believed she'd been inadequately treated. She now rests nicely at home with steroids and breathing treatments (a nebulizer) and resumes other interventions learned from Verlin and others over the years. She will see her primary care physician in Nashville next Tuesday.

Her situation was mild compared to the **breath of life** issues that others near us experienced this week. Verlin prayed with an American Indian husband as he was losing his wife to heart attacks after a second amputation due to her uncontrolled diabetes; he also provided nutritional counsel to post-operative heart and gout patients. One lady in the ER went from the room shared with Debbie to surgery. The number of extremely urgent situations seen is typical of an approaching wintry season and caused six to eight-hour waiting times for treatment. We appreciated the kind and investigative care Debbie eventually received. Medical professionals listened to our input based on her medical history.

Come and See ([Psalm 66:5](#))



Despite our unanticipated "work" at the hospital this week, planned ministry-related items on our To-Do list(s) did get done. A generator issue was serviced and readied should winter storms cut power. Verlin checked off post-COVID cardiologist and ENT visits, and Debbie fulfilled a GI appointment. While the "self-care" inspections are an imposition, we engage in them now as we each enter sixth decades of life in the next 14 months and nearly three decades of service together overseas. So, we choose to rejoice in weeks like these as well. Verlin even attended a Christmas party with Cara to enjoy meeting the Krav Maga team with whom she works as a respite from nursing. He also met a neighbor who has multi-generational connections with his family and was invited to speak at their FWB church!

Prayer & Praise

- 🙏 Praise God for the amazing **breath of life** He gives every day to praise Him! We thank Him for the close emergency medical services developed here as we work to make such a reality in Cote d'Ivoire.
- 🙏 Thank the Lord for Debbie's improved health status.
- 🙏 Pray for people who received spiritual reminders as we walked through life this week. May we all stay attuned to opportunities to speak a word for Jesus or encourage others to trust Him.

Your partners in the Gospel,
Verlin & Debbie

Last Week: [Simple-231202.PDF](#)

Prior videos: [Simple Servants - Reflect & Rejoice](#)

2023 Q2Report: [Pruning Priorities - 2023 Q2 Report 230722 PDF](#)

2022 Budget: [CHSC-0118 ANDERSON-Budget 2022](#)
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