

Joyful in Hope – 85 – July 2, 2020
(thoughts and ideas to encourage and challenge)

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”
Romans 12:12

Thankful Thursday, Heritage Family.

As we gear up for the 244th anniversary of our nation’s birth, there’s much for which to be thankful. So much has happened in the first half of 2020 that has rocked our world, and hopefully has caused us all to evaluate what is truly important, to prioritize our lives a little differently, and perhaps, determine to make some much-needed changes in our thinking and in our actions. And I believe one of the things we need to do is count our blessings.

John reminds us that *“there is no fear in love, because perfect love casts out fear.”* In all our reflection and evaluation and determination to make the second half of 2020 better than the first, let’s focus on love. We’ve already seen what fear can do.

Here are some things we prayed about last night, during our Heritage Prayers Zoom Meeting:

Sharyn Underwood has been moved to a rehab facility in Rochester Hills. No visitors, please, however if you would like to send her a note or card, the address is: Wellbridge of Rochester Hills, 252 Meadowfield Drive, Rochester Hills, MI 48307.

Tim Brimer was not able to have surgery last week, due to a lack of spinal fluid. He is at home, and will undergo more testing and treatment. The doctors have set a potential new surgery date for July 21. Tim is very discouraged. Please pray for him.

Janet Torvik is in Royal Oak Beaumont Hospital. She was experiencing shortness of breath and severe swelling associated with her COPD. She has responded well to treatment and hopes to come home this weekend.

Kim Morgan reports that her recovery is going pretty well. As of yesterday, she was “able to sit up for seventeen minutes at a time, four times per day”. Pray that she gets strong each day, and that those numbers increase.

Lisa Kimmel and Barbara Bryant are asking for prayers for a family friend, Jay Jones, who was just diagnosed with stage four esophageal cancer. He is undergoing treatment, but has not been given a good outlook. He is not yet 60.

Pete asked for prayers for the daughter of a high school friend who is in critical condition in a Houston hospital. Abby gave birth to a healthy baby girl in March, and last month was diagnosed with a rare heart disease, postpartum cardiomyopathy.

We also prayed for our friends in Honduras. Honduras has been hit hard with CoVid 19, and Predisan has experienced a 10-fold increase in costs, as they try to combat the disease in Olancho, while continuing their ongoing healthcare work. In addition, there is a severe food shortage and medical shortage in the entire country.

We continue to pray for Phuong in her ongoing treatment. And for Janet Smith, and Garry Welch, and Bill & Peggy Powers.

We also prayed for our nation as we battle the virus, and as we are challenged to be just and merciful and humble in seeking to live as one.

Blessings to you all this day. Be careful out there. It's going to be a hot one.