

Joyful in Hope – 97 – July 30, 2020
(thoughts and ideas to encourage and challenge)

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

Good morning, Heritage Family!

It was great to see some of your faces on our weekly ‘Heritage Prays’ Zooming meeting last night. Even from North Carolina, you all looked clear and bright. Isn’t the internet a wonder? Before I share the updated prayer list with you, here’s something that my cousin posted on her Facebook page. I hope it brightens your day, and challenges you to be, and do, better.

“Sometimes I just want it to stop. Talk of Covid19, protests, looting, brutality. I lose my way. Become convinced that this “new normal” is real life.

But, then I meet an 87-year-old man who talks of living through polio, diphtheria, Viet Nam, protests, and yet is still enchanted with life. He seemed surprised when I said that 2020 must be especially challenging for him.

“No”, he said slowly, looking me straight in the eyes, “I learned a long time ago to not see the world through the printed headlines. I see the world through the people that surround me. I see the world with the realization that we love big. Therefore, I choose to write my own headlines. ‘Husband Loves Wife Today’. ‘Family Drops Everything To Come To Grandma’s Bedside’.”

He patted my hand. “Here’s today’s headline, ‘Old Man Makes New Friend’.”

His words collide with my worries, freeing them from the tether I had been holding tight. I am left with a renewed spirit. My headline now reads, ‘Woman Overwhelmed By The Spirit Of Kindness And The Reminder That Our Capacity To Love Is Never Ending’.”

Here’s who and what we prayer for last night:

Kim Morgan joined us last night. It was great to be with her. Her test yesterday showed that the hematomas have cleared up, although she is still experiencing symptoms. Tomorrow’s consult with the doctor will help determine a further course of action.

Phuong Janulis had more consults this week. Pray for continued success with her treatment.

Sharyn Underwood continues with her therapy, and is improving. She and Bev talked on the phone for quite a while yesterday. (Today is Sharyn’s birthday!)

Tim Brimer suffered a bout with his diabetes on Saturday night, but is feeling better this week.

Kim as for prayers for her stepmother’s sister-in-law, Pina, who lost two brothers this week (both non covid19 related).

Pete and Janine’s niece, Miriam, is self-quarantining with covid19 at home in Oklahoma. Miriam and Matthew have a two-year-old son, and she is pregnant. Pray that she will heal quickly, and that the virus not spread.

Maralee and Chris’ friend, Rich, who has been recovering from covid19 in Tennessee, is now suffering from some spots on his arms. Tests are being run to determine their origin.

Duane Kimmel’s brother, David, has been placed on the liver transplant list. Pray that a donor is found soon.

Eddie, Michelle Sloney's brother-in-law, is suffering with heart issues. Prayers for Eddie, and wife Anne. (Tuesday was Michelle's birthday!)

We also gave thanks for various job-related things. Kim is thankful that she has had the security of her present employment during her illness. Judy Skelton reports that daughter, Michelle has been contacted again for a job she was pursuing back when the pandemic began. Curtis Storm began a part time teaching job in Santa Fe.

We prayed for our community and our nation as we continue through the pandemic, and during the upcoming election. We prayed for wisdom and resolve and healing.

*May the Lord bless you and keep you and cause his face
to shine upon you today . . . and give you peace.*