



Dekle Dispatch

Update on the Dekles

Spring 2022

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Colossians 4:2-5

² Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. ³ And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. ⁴ Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. ⁵ Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.

This has been a challenge for us to be more deliberate and devoted to praying.

As mentioned in our last letter, Tim & Mari arrived in Oct. They took their motorhome into Atlanta for repairs in mid-Nov and didn't get it back until April. During that time they went to the CEF headquarters in MO and accepted positions as a teachers for their training institute which is held twice a year for three months. This is right up Tim's line of interest and gives him and Mari opportunity to influence leaders of CEF around the world. They continue to work with CEF in WA state doing fair ministry in the summer through fall.

I guess compared to some our lives are rather boring. Di continues to sew and I spend time in the workshop turning wood or other projects. I spend quite a bit of time with the wood turning club doing their newsletter and other secretarial duties. My prayer is that I can serve the Lord by having an influence in that arena for Him. Matter of fact, as soon as I finish this letter I need to start this months letter. It's a bit longer, usually about a dozen pages. If interested in seeing one, they are on-line at www.tristatewoodturners.com.

Let me give you a little update on Di's dizzy situation. It was a six months wait to get into Vanderbilt hospital to see a specialist . Two doctors ran numerous

test and provided a diagnosis of bilateral high frequency vestibular ocular reflex impairment affecting all of the semicircular canals ana left saccular impairment. The results were sent to her neurologist in Chattanooga and a couple months later she got to see him (Apr 21). He determined her condition was not a neurological disease so referred her back to Vanderbilt for the therapy they thought would help. So far we have not heard from them. We hope something can be done at home maybe a zoom meeting as the trip to Vanderbilt is an all day event. Last time we left at 9 am and got home at 9 pm. Around home Di is doing pretty well. Outside movements and sounds seem to trigger the vertigo symptoms most.

We did take a trip to southern GA for a family reunion. I preached at the Big Ochlocknee Baptist Church and then led the family reunion following the morning service. It was small as many of the older members have passed away. It was a great time with many fun stories being told. The trip going down there was rather eventful. We had two separate blowouts on trailer tires and hit a guard post at a truck stop. Praise the Lord no one was hurt and we arrived in one piece. We had to replace five tires and have a lot of damage on the RV.

What lies ahead for the next few months? The American Association of Woodturners conduct a large symposium every year with turners from around the world as well as the USA attending. This year it is being held in Chattanooga, TN. That means our local club will be heavily involved as the host leading various areas. Di and I are responsible for the Companion Activity section. We are in the final planning stages now as it begins June 23 through June 26th. Hundreds of classes and vendors will cover the entire convention center downtown Chattanooga.

With the cost of fuel these days I doubt we will do much traveling. We seem to always find plenty opportunities to keep occupied here at home. We need to watch our babies grow up too. Recently, Di decided we need to bring the Christmas wreath in from the front door only to find a mama bird decided to build a nest in it. The little ones hatched and we now have 3 baby birds in the nest. We try not to disturb them, using the back door as much as possible.

Di finished a king size quilt for one of the young people getting married in our church. Picture to the right. She has recently made some animals as another project. I've gotten into casting acrylic and turning it as well as wood and sometime putting them together. In our adult Sunday school class we are going through the books of 1 & 2 Thessalonians. It has been a lot of fun to teach these books. For the past six months we've been spending a lot more time praying and have about a dozen in the church praying regularly for everyone in the church. So far it's all been through personal invitation but I will be preaching in a few weeks and hope to increase the number of people willing to commit to praying for each person in our church directory. The goal is to pray personally for everyone daily by as many as possible.

We had the exciting news recently of a couple we taught years ago lauching out to the mission field. Then yesterday an email of another one. I pray you will have a blessed summer walking with the Lord and serving Him. What a wonderful privilege to know the Lord.

