

The Living Well
January 2024

Hey ya'll,



I'm not sure whether to laugh or cry. I honestly just tried to cry and ended up laughing.

The saga continues: As you all know my truck started to make a funny noise on the trip down to Perry. I arrived in Perry (note the date hahahaha, okay laughing again) October 19th, 2023. First order of business....get the truck fixed!!!! Well as of today there have been numerous visits to shops as well as 17 days in said shops. As of today, the latest answer is, Mr. Beadle we have your torque converter (YAY!!!! I say) however we cannot get to it until the end of next week. By the way every time there is a conversation

about the truck it is always said it will be two weeks.

This next appointment will be on or about (note the date hahahaha) January 19th, 2024. Yes, that is indeed 3 months and I'm not convinced it will be taking care of my original complaint. I can't wait to see (oh gosh here I go again hahahaha). Silver Lining: most of the work being done has been under warranty. The bumper has been to for the most part be stranded. Yesterday I put gas in the truck for the first time since arriving here (note the date hahahaha). Okay going out to say hi to the neighbors, a major storm just passed, and we've been cooped up for hours.

Solar update: Not sure if all of you know or not, I invested in solar energy system to run my power needs. In the past three months (note the date hahaha) sorry I digress again. I've only been plugged into a power source for 14 hours to top off the batteries when we were cloudy for two days in a row. I have done a lot of electrical conservation to achieve this and so I am considering an upgrade to the system this summer.



Hunter update: Hunter and I get out just about every day for walks that can go from 1 mile to 6 or 7 miles. That guy sure likes to go out on adventures and discover new scents. He also discovered a skin infection somehow and has now been on anti-biotic's for a week and will be for 3 more weeks. Not sure if it slowed him down as I say we walk a lot and he has been sleeping a lot. Looking forward to him getting past it :)

I just remembered I have a chip in my windshield, Wondering, if I dare start that process for the

possible time involved :) gotta laugh, do you all remember I also had a flat tire after I got here hahahaha! I think God wanted to slow me down, just sayin :) I do feel like I have been on a retreat and I felt that from the moment I first arrived and was invited to a men's dinner (oh yea steak dinner and it was an awesome rib eye).

People Hunter and I have met on our walks update: I haven't seen one of the nearby neighborhood resident since Thanksgiving when I brought her the box of food and turkey. It's been cold for people here and she may just be staying indoors. I've met Steve's Mom and Dad as well as one of his neighbors who gave me a key to the gate of his property so Hunter and I can walk his wooded trails. Steve's scans show that his cancer has stayed in remission. I have made a plant hanger for him and his wife out of debris from his house that was destroyed and if I ever get my truck back there is a friend in Orlando who has made a vinyl applique to put on it before I give it to him. It has been fun to see friendly faces on just about all of our walks.

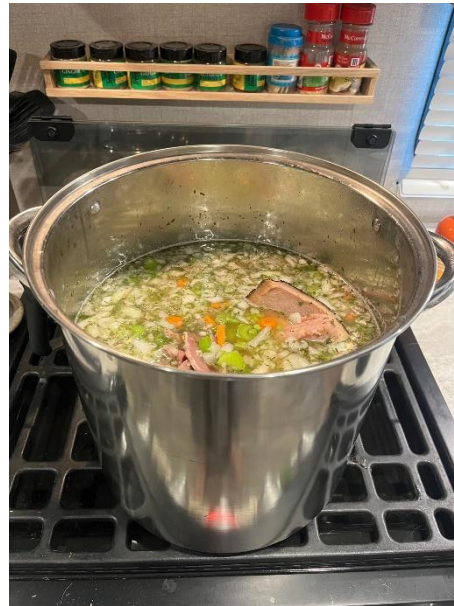
I'm back.... Took a break for dinner and two days passed :) , Back again, I just was over and caulked Gary's sink.



Campground Life: Mark and Louann (owners), Gary (from Orlando worked at Disney), Jim (here for a month from Nebraska), James (bad health issues), Bobby (Owner of Hunter's buddy Jessie), Michael (free spirit, seeing the world from land and sea), various relief workers, and me (guy and his dog from Minnesota).

Jim has nick named me the soup nazi (from Seinfeld) as I have made pea soup, chili, and vegetable beef soup in very large quantities for everyone to share. Yes it was hard to part with the split pea :) One of my God lessons came from soup night when I was not wanting to share it all so I could have plenty for myself, God said "It's my soup" so yes I shared it all and guess what....I have plenty for myself. I was also looking at my

disposable bowls and was like nope not enough to share they will have to bring a bowl and God said "Umm, they're my bowls" so yes, I shared them as well :)



Jim and I went golfing last week, it was nice to get out and do something fun for a bit even if the score indicated otherwise. Today Jim is getting materials, and I am going to help him make a cabinet. Louann and Mark often have dinners for the group and the other day whilst I was gone, Dinner was lobster bisque....oh my gosh was it good, just sayin!

Church life: Northside Church is small congregation with a big impact on the community. I've been involved with two food distributions, dinner for a funeral and a Christmas cookie outreach. I've also done a few projects there for them. I assembled and hung kitchen cabinets, installed grab bars, ran heating vent for an office and this week I am adding more wall cabinets in the kitchen for them. I was also blessed with an invite to one families Christmas celebration. We talked, ate and played cards until midnight....Okay that was a little late for this guy :)

Next up...Me: (saving this for tomorrow morning)

Well, it's the day after tomorrow morning. :) I ended up going to a flea market with Jim yesterday which took most of the day as it was 80 miles from here. No fleas but wow what humongous garage sale.

So, a bit about me, What can I say other than it has been a great learning/growing experience so far to this point. I've said it before and will say it again "I feel like I should be doing more" Okay...that's doing and not being. Figured I wasn't doing enough for making a difference and would let so many down. I know I sound like a broken record. I've realized though that there has been a significant impact made and more ideas and thoughts are coming my way every day.

What have I done is a question I've asked myself often and it's a lot I see. You know the two-week thing with the truck you read about well, I've found that I have had two week windows of blessings for the community, friends and the campground in which I'm staying. My first 2 weeks were acclimating to the new surroundings and meeting a few people. The second two weeks was using my crafting skills to turn rubble into



treasures. The snowmen, trees, and plant stands turned out to be great Christmas presents to just about everyone I know here and everyone loved them. The next two weeks I was able to spend time with the Northside Church blessing the community of Perry with 2 food distributions and a super fun cookie outreach. Some of you may remember last Christmas I did my own cookie outreach but this one was over the top. The church community is rather small and I thought my 4 dozen cookies were quite an addition until I saw the hundreds upon hundreds of cookies that the church member prepared for the event. It was fun to see the looks on the faces of people as they received the tasty treats.

The next two week saw me using my love of cooking to make split pea soup, chili, and vegetable beef soup for everyone here in the campground. Throughout the whole time I have also supplied many with baked treats while enjoying my love of baking. This past 2 weeks I've come to the conclusion that my commitment to this new adventure, which I

said I would give a year, has actually only taken 8 months. Although it is not what I expected it is more than I could have asked for or ever imagined and so have committed to this new adventure for as long as the Lord wants me, which has led to the two-week period now and that is time to remodel. I have started to redo the bedroom area to open up more floor space and give Hunter and I a bit more space and access to things.



The heart work in me has been something I didn't expect but is exactly what I needed. The truck breaking down has shown me a greater need to slow down and be part of the moment, not the finish. I may need to start looking at things and take into account a two-week window :) but more than anything that has been teaching me to be. I need to work more on being less judgmental, which is something that I figured I was better at than I've discovered :(I need to write more so as not to forget all that is happening and being done on a regular basis all around me and the people/community I'm involved with, which brings me to the revelation I had just this morning.

I spend a lot of time looking at my ministry foundation and have seen that I am doing it just not as grand as I thought, and the Lord brought to my attention that I am living in a community that needs more of the Lord's blessings. Something along the lines of being trusted with the little things before I can be moved to the bigger things. I'm looking forward to what He will be doing through me in the next two months here at The Oaks RV Park. On the wall along with the ministry foundation is a poster of old that you can see in the pictures. It was something done long ago when I was involved with the singles ministry and felt that was the start of the journey. It was for that part and now I'm on the latest journey and realized the work needed to start in my heart again. The best part about this new journey however is, as you can see, that my heart is surrounded by all of you. I have gone through some tough stuff here in Perry, being stranded just one of the tough things, and it has been awesome to see, feel, and know that my heart is surrounded by all of you. That has given me courage, strength and

support to face so many unknowns. I am forever humbled and grateful; you all mean the world to me Thank You!!!

So, what's next:

Hopefully the truck is the first thing that's next. It is penciled in for service this Wednesday and at some point, I know it will be repaired.

Work within the community here at The Oaks

Finish the remodel of Hunter's and My home. (I'm in the market for a twin mattress and bedding if anyone knows of something available.)

Upgrade my solar power, I have found that what I have now although a great system, it is only really efficient for camping, not living, so I am planning on upgrading the solar input by 100% and the battery storage by 150%. Here's a big ask. This upgrade has been estimated at \$4300.00 and I am going to looking for help in funding this. During the months of February, March and April any new or additional donations will go towards the purchase of the materials needed for this upgrade. Donations can be made at [The Living Well - Global Horizons Inc.](#)

Continue making an impact at church and in the surrounding community while out and about!

Build and install more upper cabinets at Northside Church and hope to get the truck repaired so I can get to a few projects I've got on the books for people in need.



Return to the Lakeville, Farmington area in April for a few months and head to northern Minnesota for the heat of July and August, returning to Lakeville Farmington area for September and October. These are my plans, and they are very fluid as I will stay tuned into the heartbeat of Jesus and go where I am needed.

Thank You all again as I live by Faith sharing the Love, Hope and Peace of Jesus Christ

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P.S. I need to also work on writing more so as not to forget all the wonderful things that are going on all around me and through me. That's more a note to me :) Love you all!!!!!!

P.P.S. There's soooo much more to share with you all and I look forward to seeing you soon to talk rather than write.