

Hi Everyone :)

Yep, just thinking about all of you brings a smile to my face as I thank God for each and every one of you. Each of you hold a special place in my heart and thanks to text's, e-mail, phone and Facebook I've been able to keep up with what is going on in almost everybody's lives. As I pray each day, your trials, excitement, experiences, events and all you are about is brought into my world and shared with the Lord and others. I am so thankful for each of you and how my life is richer because of our friendships. You truly make a difference!!

So, what's been going on with me? To be honest sometimes I'm not sure, however I know that I am constantly growing and changing and as you all know change isn't easy and growth can sometimes hurt.

Since leaving Minnesota late last fall, I've had to deal with a couple of health issues :(I had a morning cough that started in October and it turned into a full blown respiratory infection by January that had me coughing so hard that my lungs hurt. After a couple visits to the doctor and a plethora of medications I was able to kick that out of my lungs (pheeew). I no more than got over that and then ended up with a toe hangnail that decided to get infected (oh my gosh the sheets hurt at night, and I could hardly walk during the day). Got that taken care of with more doctor visits and more meds (pheeew). Then out of nowhere I get an ear infection and another doctor visit and yep, more meds. Really hoping that's it and no more docs. On top of that poor Hunter ended up with a skin infection twice and has been on meds as well. Last year was the truck that broke down...this year it was me. I did however get out and about and have met a lot of people and was able to help others in need :)

I met Clara Linda who has disabilities from polio and have been able to help her with various projects around her place. Stained her deck, installed light fixtures, moved bags of dirt and assembled chairs, which she loves to sit in and entertain visitors.

Andrea had a leaking toilet that needed repair, and she was very thankful for someone (me) that knew what I was doing. I'd never done it before but it looked easy and it was :)

My friend Gary, whom I met last year in Perry had a lot of storm damage and I was able to help him replace damaged flooring, replace a gazebo, and seal leaks from the exterior to prevent issues in the future. He also needed to have surgery and I was able to be there for him to be the driver and helper once he got home

Rosemary from Cedar Key had her house flooded out, Gary and I walked through it with her to assess the damages and she is now awaiting insurance monies to start the rehab.

Hunter and I walk every day when we're not sick :) and Hunter is loved by everyone. Every day I hear "he is such a happy dog, he's always smiling, such a sweet dog. I think its going to his head as he wants to say hi to everybody. Larry and Susan have always called their dog their 'Director Of Greeting' no I know why. Thanks to Hunter we have met lots of people and touched the lives and hearts of many as we have talked and prayed for each other. Speaking of hearts.... Hunter has a girlfriend (LOL) yep, he

can't go a day without seeing her and she is nuts about him. Her name is Sage however I always mistakenly call her Sadie. Her owners are good friends of mine and their names are Dan and Susie...some of you may know why I call her Sadie :). Another very fun meeting took place shortly after arrival here in Chiefland. I was at the hardware store and the salesman said hi to me in a way as if he knew me. I looked at him and said hi as if I knew him as well and yet thought I've only been here less than a week how do I know you. At that moment we realized we were neighbors in Farmington and hadn't seen each other in two years. He is living just down the block from me again.

I've gotten out to golf a couple of times and for the first time ever I came within 1 stroke of breaking 100 (YAY!!!) I may do it yet. I'm thinking it's because of my latest New Years resolution that is still going gangbusters. I wanted to try doing some pushups and sit-ups to get in shape and stay away from doctors and pills and it has turned into a full-blown workout thanks to some kind ribbing from Russ about my belly over a zoom call. I was a bit bigger than I wanted to be and so the challenge was on. Thanks to the American Heart Association's 28 day push up challenge I had the incentive to do that and more. I am now working out about 2 hours every morning and have lost most of the belly :) , 10 pounds and 1" from my waist. With my newfound core strength, I have shaved 20 strokes off of my golf game!!!!!!!

The next few weeks are going to be filled with maintenance on the travel trailer (AKA The Well) as I prepare to head North. I will be taking a week or so to get to Omaha where I'll be staying for about a month so I can help my friend Jim continue to get things in order around his house. Prayers for Jim would be appreciated as he continues to improve from his lung cancer diagnosis. It looks like I should be getting to Minnesota around the first of May and look forward to seeing as many of you as I can this summer. While there I will be busy getting all my ducks in a row so as to be ready to head out again to help others.

Oh, almost forgot, something else that has been going on is my friend Mike and I have been doing a bi-weekly bible study. It has turned out to be a focus on the gospel, what it is and how to share it. With this new insight and understanding I am looking into a bit of revamping my mission. When I first started this journey, I put together what is now looking very much like my mission. Over the next few months, I'm going to be looking at what Gods mission is for me. I know it is going to be helping others as that is surely in my heart, it will just be less of working on homes and more of working on hearts which is what I believe the Lord has been giving me the opportunity to do all along.

Thank you all for helping me to help others. May God bless each of you as deeply as he has blessed me

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Pictures are of cupcakes I made for my neighbors' birthday, Gary before and after Surgery (after he was feeling No Pain :))

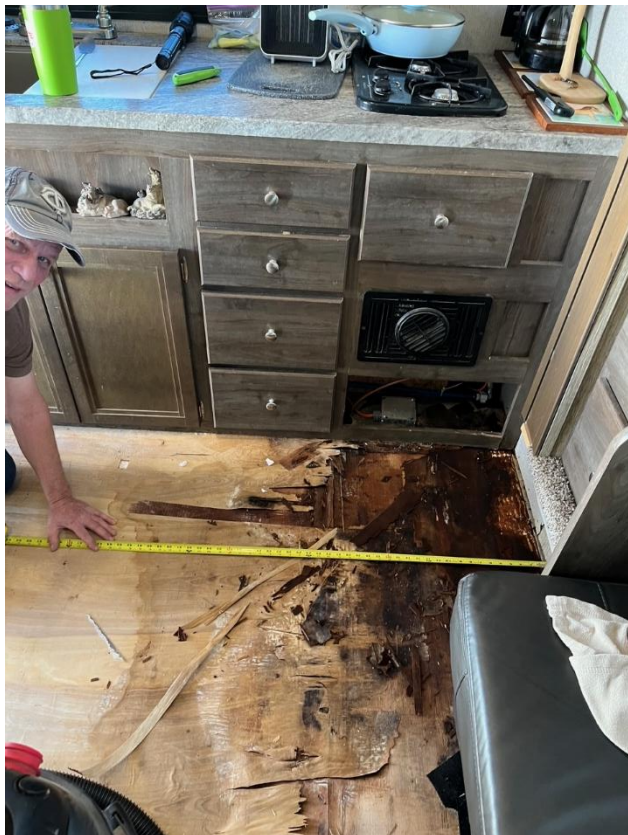




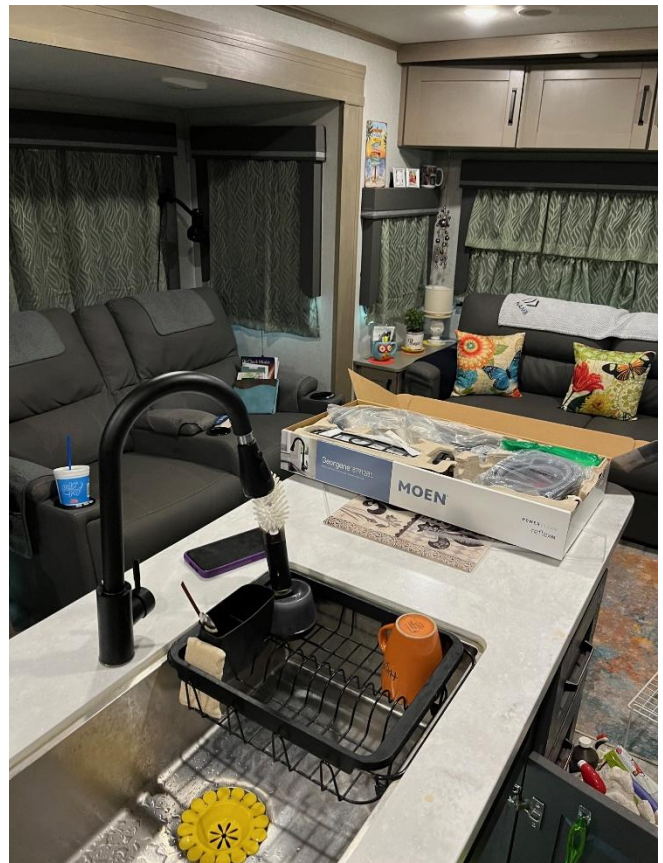
Gary after surgery



Beef stew that I made and shared



Ugly floor



Clara Linda's soon to be new faucet



New floor



First time using a post hole digger



Gary's gazebo post holes



Gazebo framing



Hunter visiting Gary in his new gazebo with lights



New gazebo



Tight quarters to get at the toilet repair



I had to use my camera to see the screws in the back



Jim and I taking a break



Staining Clara Linda's deck



Clara Linda enjoying her deck



My old neighbor from Farmington



Hunter's girlfriend Sage