

UPDATE ON DENISE IMPORTANT PRAYER REQUEST

April 15, 2013

Dear

This is a short letter to inform you of a serious medical condition that we are facing. On my return from my latest mission trip in March, I found Denise was extremely weak and fatigued. Along with other symptoms, she was seeing a blurry patch in her vision that prompted a visit to the eye doctor. He ordered a blood lab which revealed critically low levels of platelets and red blood cells. Denise had to go immediately to the hospital. This resulted in two blood transfusions over the course a 9-day hospital stay. They ran a number of tests including two bone marrow biopsies. At first they thought it was *Leukemia* but the bone marrow ruled it out. This seemed like good news until they found she has *Aplastic Anemia* or *Myelodysplastic Syndrome*, two other potentially fatal blood disorders.

I (Gerry) have been focused exclusively on caring for Denise since her hospitalization and researching the internet to find out all I can about these rare diseases and how to best treat them. In the course of that research we found a medical practice in NJ of physicians who use nutritional therapy in their practice and who accept patients for counseling by phone. This is in addition to (not instead of) our local doctor's prescriptions. Denise has now radically changed her diet, eating mainly fresh vegetables (raw and cooked), fruits, berries, beans, mushrooms, legumes, seeds and nuts to enhance her healing. This nutritional therapy may require several months to have a significant effect.

I had to take Denise back to the hospital again this past week for another blood transfusion. This is a very serious situation and we covet your prayers for healing and God's direction in the decisions we are facing relative to her treatment and care.

Between these two hospital stays, our daughter Anna, gave birth to her first child 6 weeks early. Jordan Deborah Fry arrived March 29th 6PM weighing 4 lbs. 5oz. and 17.25 inches long. Praise God she was in good health and is doing well in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. We're hoping she will get to go home soon. Anna and Dave are also doing well as they learn to care for their little angel.

Here's something Denise recently posted on facebook:

"...One month ago today I heard the word leukemia attached to my name for the first time. How to describe the feeling of hearing that word...shocking, unbelievable...The whirlwind of events that followed seemed surreal. In the midst of it all, God has been more real to me than ever before. His peace that passes all understanding has enveloped me and hope for a future carries me day by day. My spirit is filled with joy, something I have longed for, for a very long time. And though I don't have leukemia, my condition is serious and requires me to rest a lot. Gerry has been taking such great care of me. He's taken over the care of our home, cooking, shopping, pretty much everything...He hasn't stopped since he got off the plane from Mexico the day before I was admitted to hospital. He's done an incredible amount of research, revamped my diet, and is determined to do all he can to help me get

well. How is it that I could be so blessed? We serve an awesome God, our lives rest in His loving hands, He has given us words of hope and healing and we are resting in them. One thing that is very clear to me, come what may, there is only victory for me! Thank you all for your prayers, encouragement, love and support. They mean more to me than you will ever know.”

Your prayers are very much needed and appreciated at this time.

Would you email us (gerrydenise@yahoo.com or dentaltrainingformissions@yahoo.com) so we can have your current email and phone number? If you would like to know more, feel free to call us at (956) 831-9011.

Thanks so much for your support and prayers,

Gerry and Denise