

My Daily Blog

2012

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Monday December 31, 2012

Danny got up around 9 am. We went to the store to get pork and sauerkraut for Tuesday. After Frank picked him up, I got a shower and headed to Brookville. There was a New Year's Eve party scheduled for 2 pm.

When I got there, one of the office staff was talking with Sherri. She told us that since she has not been cleared by the doctor in Pittsburgh to put weight on her right leg, there was little else physical therapy could do until then. Therefore, she would have to leave the home on January 8th. Needless to say, this has Sherri all worked up. I told them to work with my insurance and they said there may be an option available. So, we will have to wait until the end of the week to see if she can continue to stay there or if she will have to come home.

Sunday December 30, 2012

David, Janna, and the girls left soon after I left for Church. David snow-blown the driveway before he went.

Danny Wilson came at 5 pm to stay the night. We played a variety of things and then we watched the movie Batman Begins.

Saturday December 29, 2012

What a great day for Sherri and us! I picked her up at 8:30 am and brought her to the house. I cooked breakfast. Sherri loved seeing all four grandchildren here. This was the first she has been to the house since she broke her leg. David and Janna took their girls sled riding out on East Main. Sherri, Twila, and I drove over and parked and watched them go up and down the hill. We came back and ordered the Pub for lunch. I got Sherri back to Brookville by 6 pm, so she was gone for 9 1/2 hours and did real well.

Friday December 28, 2012

David, Janna, Brianna, and Megan got here around noon. After lunch, we went up to see Sherri. Jared, Missy, Hannah and Brody met us there. Sherri had gotten her hair done today and she looked good and said she felt pretty well. After we left Sherri, we all went over to Plylers for supper and then back to the house where the kids exchanged Christmas gifts.

Thursday December 27, 2012

Twila and I went up to Brookville at 1 pm for the Christmas Buffet dinner at the nursing home. Sherri felt better today. She had done her hair herself and looked really good and was feeling much better. They had ham, turkey, green beans, corn, sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes, rolls, cranberry sauce, gravy and cake and pie along with punch. It was very nice.

David called today and said they are planning on coming here on Friday.

Wednesday December 26, 2012

I ran some supplies up to Sherri that were left at the Clarion Hospital. It was a miserable trip up but the trip back was something else. Perhaps the worst conditions I have ever driven on. If I hadn't been driving an all-wheel drive vehicle I would have been stranded. As it was, I just tried to straddle the middle of the road until a car came from the other direction.

Sherri seemed much better today.

Tuesday December 25, 2012

I got up early and finished wrapping presents. I got down to the hospital just before 9 am. They had already finished giving Sherri two units of blood. We were expecting to get to Jared and Missy's soon. About 10 am some guy came in carrying a jug of gook and told Sherri she was to drink it and then they would give her a CT scan. The doctor would be in to talk to her some time after 1 pm. Sherri said thanks but no thanks. She was going to see some of her family. They said she had that right. I reasoned that they could do that in another day or so, we've waited this long. I asked if this would mess anything up with insurance and they said it would not. Sherri signed herself out.

It was probably 11 am by the time we got to Missy and Jared's. Sherri had a great time but got really tired and hurting by 3 pm. After she got to see Rick and Drew, I took her back to McKinley Health Center. When we went to

sign her in, the guy at the desk was acting funny. He said the nursing supervisor would have to sign her in. Soon after she came to the room and said there was a problem. Since Sherri signed herself out of Clarion Hospital she would need to be readmitted. I said she had never been admitted to Clarion and they neglected to tell us these rules. I think they were trying to threaten me as their way of punishing us for refusing the CT scan that Dr. Semeyn had ordered. After I talked on the phone to the director of the entire place, he more or less said that he could take care of the issue. The bottom line is that Sherri didn't get kicked out and she went to bed at 6 pm.

I stopped at Frank and Lue's on the way back for an hour or two. I learned Danny got up at 5 am.

Monday December 24, 2012

I was completing running errands and finishing wrapping when the phone rang. It was McKinley Health Center saying that Sherri's labs showed that she was low of blood and they were sending her to the ER in Clarion for an assessment. It turned out that she was a little low and with her heart condition they decided it would be best to give her blood. So they moved her upstairs where they would slowly give her blood through the night. If everything goes well, she may still be able to go to Jared and Missy's for Christmas Day. We'll see.

As I was heading to the ER, I saw that the tank on our boiler (furnace) was leaking. Missy got hold of Luton's plumbing for me and they came and replaced the tank and zone valves.

I ate dinner at Jared and Missy's. They had lasagna. Rick, Barb, Twila were also there. Later, I took out Danny's presents and visited there for an hour or so.

Sunday December 23, 2012

Sherri was having pain and cramps in her stomach today.

David is getting something like 11 straight days off - about the same as the schools are getting off.

Saturday December 22, 2012

Frank and I left around 7:30 am for Ohio. With the blowing wind, we

considered the possibility of bad roads. However, the roads were perfect the entire trip to Wakeman. We got to the funeral home with lots of time to spare. It was sad to see Cindy lying there. I understand there was a tremendous number of people at the viewing the night before despite the bad weather.

During the funeral, Mark gave a eulogy. He did very well.

Danny returned with Frank and me. We stopped at Sharon to eat supper and got back home around 7:30 pm.

Friday December 21, 2012

Today was the first day of winter and the weather cooperated with the occasion. Lue, Danny, Fran, Ron, Tari, and Charlotte headed to Ohio. They were hoping to make it to Cindy's viewing tonight from 6-8 pm.

Today was our last day of school until January 2.

Thursday December 20, 2012

McKinley Health Center called around noon saying they were concerned about Sherri's potassium levels being too low and her calcium level too high. They were taking her to the Clarion Hospital ER. I figured they would either admit her there if not send her to Pittsburgh, meaning she would be down there for Christmas. When school was over, I stopped down to the hospital. The ER doctor said that her doctor may want to admit her for 23 hour observation. However, when he called Dr. Cunningham, she told the ER doctor that those reading were not that far out of whack for Sherri and that he should send her back to the nursing home. So, I took her back up to Brookville.

Everyone's a little nervous about the storm coming when we all have to travel to Wakeman for Cindy's funeral. Lue is taking a car load on Friday and Frank and I will go out early Saturday morning.

Wednesday December 19, 2012

I picked Sherri up at 6:15 am to take her to her appointment with Dr. Altman in Pittsburgh. He is the orthopedic surgeon and his office is located a couple of blocks past Allegheny General. She got an x-ray and a short exam of her leg. Everything is ok. They told her not to put weight on that leg and if all goes well, they will see her in one month and then she might be able to start

putting weight on it.

We stopped at the Sonic at the Mills for lunch on the way home.

Brody has rsv again meaning he is out of daycare for a week. He has been sick, running a fever and just not feeling very well.

When I called Sherri in the evening, a technician answered the phone saying she was taking an EKG of Sherri. I asked why and she said that her calcium levels were elevated. I am not sure what that means.

Tuesday December 18, 2012

I woke up today hoping that I had only dreamed that Lue called in the middle of the night. Sadly, it was not a dream. We learned later in the day that her funeral will be early Saturday afternoon. Her obituary is posted at <http://www.mormanfh.com/>.

Monday December 17, 2012

Not much happened today, that is until I went to bed. Just around midnight, Lue called. I knew at that time of the night, that something was wrong. And, when I heard her voice I was really concerned. She said I have some bad news. She said that Cindy had just died. Cindy (Grady) Norrod is our first cousin who lived about an hour southwest of Cleveland, Ohio.

Lue said that she had talked to her for about an hour this evening. Sometime after their conversation, Zack called and said something was wrong with his mother. They called for an ambulance. She died at the hospital. I am stunned and in disbelief!

Sunday December 16, 2012

After church I went up to see Sherri. She has an appointment Wednesday with the orthopedic doctor down in Pittsburgh. I assume he will take x-rays to determine how things are mending and the future course of action. They are planning on transporting her down by ambulance. However, we were wondering if she were now good enough to make the trip in the car. Therefore, I got her in the car yesterday and we made a trip down to Clarion and back.

First, she wanted to drive by Mike and Buffy's new home - she hadn't seen it

before. After that, we stopped in front of the Beggs' and waved and yelled hello to Hannah and Brody. We didn't try going in because Brody has been running a fever. If he didn't get better, they were going to take him to the ER last night. Next, we went to Twila's and we pulled into her garage and talked to her for a few minutes. Lastly, Sherri thought she was entitled to an Icy at Sheetz. So she enjoyed that on the way back to Laurelbrooke Landing. I am certain it felt good to her to leave the home for a couple of hours.

Saturday December 15, 2012

I had two meetings at the church. The first was from 9 am to 12:30 pm. At this meeting the search committee met with Eric Helton and his wife Brianna. Eric is the leading candidate for the position of Associate Pastor. In the afternoon, we had an Elders meeting. A couple hours of this meeting was also with Eric and Brianna. This couple will return to their home in Tennessee and pray whether or not they believe they are called to Clarion while the search committee does the same.

Jared and Missy took the kids over to see Sherri.

Friday December 14, 2012

Sherri and I had a meeting with her caregivers (nurses, therapists, doctor reports, activities director), All reports say that she is doing fine and making progress.

So what do we say about the shooting at Sandy Hook, a village that is part of Newtown, Connecticut? It is unbelievable that 20 little kids were slaughtered as well as 7 other adults. You know that many people will ask, where was this so-called loving God when all this happened today? And for some, they take this as evidence that there is no God that loves them.

Nothing could be further from the truth but this is the very thing that Satan wants to accomplish. Satan wrecks havoc on our world so people lose their way to God. Satan must not be allowed to put a wall between people and God. For it is drawing closer to the Creator that men, women, and kids must do when something like this happens. In Him is true safety and peace.

Thursday December 13, 2012

I didn't go over to Brookville today. I got home from work around 5 pm and did little the rest of the day. Sherri and I have an informational meeting at

Laurel Brook Friday afternoon.

Wednesday December 12, 2012

Today was 12-12-12. For me to see the next such date of 01-01-01, I will need to live to be 147 years old.

I stopped to see Sherri after work and before a Search Committee meeting at the church. Karen was there when I arrived and Rita Kahle (from work) also stopped in.

Tuesday December 11, 2012

Today was a long day. I had a meeting all morning in Mercer and then came back to the school and worked until the board meeting at 7pm, finally getting home around 9 pm.

Hannah got an award tonight for most improved handstand.

Monday December 10, 2012

I had an elders' meeting at the church so I didn't get up to see Sherri. However, Tony and Paula Terrana were up as was Esther Dininny. Lue and Danny stopped in after Danny's swimming practice. I am not sure who else was there. Sherri writes the visitors down in a book so she can recall later who was there.

Sunday December 9, 2012

We had a missionary, from the International Mission Board, speak at church and Sunday School. He was very interesting. Earlier in his life, he had escaped from communist controlled Romania, where he had been born and raised. One of his primary target groups is gypsies.

I went up to be with Sherri in the mid-afternoon. We did some online Christmas shopping and then I went home to sleep through the second half of the Steelers' game.

Saturday December 8, 2012

Lue spent her birthday in Pittsburgh with Frank & Danny.

I went up to Brookville in the middle of the afternoon. They told Sherri that instead of serving her dinner at 6 pm, as is normal, that it would be at 4:30.

The reason for the early supper was it was light up night. They asked if she would be going up stairs for it. We thought there would be a few old people sitting around a Christmas tree but we decided we would go. Were we ever surprised! There were hundreds of people there. The line was long outside for sleigh/carriage rides. Inside, a bell choir was performing, refreshments were served, and parents with their kids were in line to see Santa. People from all over the community came and the cars were lined way up the road. Then they had a big countdown to the lighting of the big tree out front. They even had a Chinese auction. By the time we got Sherri back to her room, she was pretty tired (and so was I).

Friday December 7, 2012

After work I got a haircut on the way to see Sherri. I must be tired because about ten minutes after I got there, I had fallen asleep in a chair in her room.

Thursday December 6, 2012

I took Sherri's new refrigerator over after work today. I put Coke Zero, water, grapes, oranges, and yogurt in it. She seems to be doing quite well there.

Wednesday December 5, 2012

I stopped after work and bought Sherri a small compact refrigerator for her room.

Jared, Missy, Hannah, and Brody went to see Sherri in the early evening.

Alisha passed her certification test so upon graduation in less than two weeks, she will be a certified athletic trainer.

Tuesday December 4, 2012

Sherri is settled and into therapy. Becky Brooks saw her in the earlier part of the day. Gary and Karen were up in the late afternoon and then Dude and Linda visited her in the evening. She was told by someone, she thinks a therapist, that she should plan on being there for 3 months.

Monday December 3, 2012

Sherri left AGH around 2:30 pm and was in her bed in Brookville by 4:30, just about the same time I was getting there with her belongings from home. She has a nice private room (#215) and everyone there was really nice to her

during her first evening. The very first thing she did once she got settled, was to get a shower.

Sunday December 2, 2012

Once again I went down to Pittsburgh today. Dr. Benza indicated that Sherri will be going to Brookville on Monday.

Saturday December 1, 2012

I left for Pittsburgh shortly after 6 am and spent the day with Sherri. Sherri's INR level is still preventing her from coming to Brookville.

Friday November 30, 2012

McKinley Health Center at Brookville called and said they have a bed for Sherri when AGH is ready to send her up. It probably won't be a couple of more days. Her INR is not right yet.

Rick and Twila flew to Florida to see Twila's father, Harold.

Thursday November 29, 2012

Dr. Sokos told Sherri that she would be going to Brookville but maybe not for another day or two.

Wednesday November 28, 2012

Sherri was assessed today by physical therapy. She cannot do enough therapy to qualify her for rehab at Clarion. So, we must arrangements for a skilled nursing home. Choices would be Laurel Brook Landing in Brookville, Sligo, and Clarion. I will finalize those plans on Thursday.

Rick and Laura went in to see Sherri in the evening.

Tuesday November 27, 2012

Jared and Missy took Brody to see the eye specialist in Erie. Brody is scheduled for surgery on both eyes the day before Good Friday this coming spring.

There is nothing really new with Sherri. A couple of doctors called me in the evening. I understand they will get all her numbers back to where they should be and then transport her back to Clarion. On Wednesday, I will work on getting her to the Rehab at the Clarion Hospital - if she is eligible to go there.

Monday November 26, 2012

I got to AGH around 9 am. We waited all day for an orthopedic surgeon to x-ray Sherri. She wasn't allowed to eat all day in case they decided to do surgery. Finally, around 2 pm they brought her in a sandwich and said there would be no surgery for her today.

Around 4 pm, a doctor from the orthopedic team came in and said he ordered x-rays. He told us all about the surgery. He explained that she would be recovering for at least three months. They took her for x-rays at 5 pm. I was amazed that they took 21 x-ray pictures. While she was gone, Dr. Sokos came in. I told him that I was somewhat surprised that he cleared her for surgery. He said he hadn't. He wanted to learn more before he gave an OK.

At 7 pm, the nurses got a call up to the floor from the orthopedic doctors. They said they would treat Sherri's fracture non-surgically. Why? I don't know. Was the break not that bad considering the risk it would be to her heart. Or, was there just no choice because of her condition. Anyway, I suppose we will learn in the next few days the course of action that they will take. The only thing we know now is that she will be fitted for a new brace in a couple of days.

I got back home around 9:30 pm.

Sunday November 25, 2012

Sherri was taken to Pittsburgh where they will have her heart people should they decide to surgically repair her broken leg.

Saturday November 24, 2012

Sherri fell a second time. This happened in the middle of the night, just past midnight. Her leg is hurt. She got back to bed and got some sleep. I looked at the knee in the morning and the right knee is swollen. After David gets up, I will have him help me get her down to the car and I will take her to the ER for x-rays. I am afraid something could be broken.

We found out before noon that Sherri does have a fracture. She is getting admitted and waiting to see Dr. Armstrong. If she needs surgery, she will most likely be transported to Pittsburgh. If not, she may be placed in the Clarion Hospital's rehab.

David, Janna, Brianna, and Megan left soon after Sherri and I had headed to the ER in the morning. It was a nice three day visit. It is too bad it ended with Sherri breaking her leg.

Jared and Missy had Hannah's 4th birthday party in the evening. They had Daddy's cater it.

Friday November 23, 2012

Sherri fell in the afternoon. Her arm is bruised and it looks bad.

Danny's birthday party was in the evening. Once again it was at the Legion.

Thursday November 22, 2012

I got up at 3:15 am to put the turkeys on. We had a very nice day. It was unusually warm for Thanksgiving Day and many people sat for long periods of time out on the deck.

Unfortunately, Hannah was sick. It was her birthday but she spent it at home throwing up and she had a low grade fever. Missy stayed home with her. Jared had to take their dinner over to them.

Wednesday November 21, 2012

On my way home from work I thought, 'it will be nice to be off until Tuesday.' I picked up the ham. Once home, I swept the house, set up the tables, and then made the stuffing. David, Janna, and the girls got here around 7 pm. They told us the projected move into their new home is on pace for December 27.

Tuesday November 20, 2012

I received final confirmation for Thursday's starting lineup for Thanksgiving Dinner (noon or shortly after): Twila, Dude, Linda, Dan, Rick, Laura, Jared, Missy, Hannah, Brody, David, Janna, Brianna, Megan, Scott, BeeDee, Frank, Lue, Danny, Tari, Mike, Buffy, Head Meat Carver Ron, Fran, Dood, Sherri, and myself = 27.

Monday November 19, 2012

One year ago today was George Jaeger's funeral. It is hard to believe that a year has passed already. We miss George and we miss Dianne, who has since

moved to Georgia to be with her daughter.

The search committee has narrowed its focus to one person. We will bring him in for a face to face interview in December. If he and we are still interested, he will be asked to come back for a 'candidating' weekend.

Sunday November 18, 2012

We had a Thanksgiving brunch before Sunday School today.

Jared and Missy went to the Steelers' game against Baltimore. The Ravens won 13-10.

Saturday November 17, 2012

Sherri seems a lot better today and the rash, why it is totally gone.

Today was turkey thawing day - the day the turkeys come out of the freezer and into the fridge.

This morning was a big surprise for Hannah and Brody. When they got up Mr. Pepperfish was back, sitting on a stand in their dining room. Mr. Pepperfish is an elf on the shelf. He will be at their place from now until Christmas. After they go to sleep at night, he flies to the North Pole to report their behavior to Santa and he also tells Santa what they would like for Christmas. By the time they get up each day, Pepperfish will have returned but he will be in a new place. So each morning when they come down the stairs, they must search until they find him. This will happen everyday until Christmas morning. When Santa comes, Mr. Pepperfish will head back to the North Pole where he will stay until around this same time next year. So, if you are at their place in the next month, you might want to see if you can spot Mr. Pepperfish.

Friday November 16, 2012

I spent the day at Butler for a meeting of the Directors of Western Pennsylvania. Bill Powell was there also, when he left from there he drove off into retirement.

Thursday November 15, 2012

No change with Sherri.

Sherri said that David and Janna and the girls are planning on coming for Thanksgiving. It has been years since David was here on Thanksgiving Day. It will be exciting having all the family here. My last count of those I am expecting to come for dinner, which will be at noon or shortly after, is 26. I have two 20 pound turkeys and an 8 pound boneless ham on hand.

Our school put on a turkey and ham luncheon in honor of Bill Powell, our director, who is retiring. Today was his last day at the Career Center. Some administrators from schools in the county came as well as our entire staff. I think Bill enjoyed the day.

After work, I went to retirement meeting at the Intermediate Unit. It was for educators who are within a few years of retiring. It was an opportunity to learn how the system works and how their retirement pay is calculated. The meeting was two hours long but very interesting and informative.

Wednesday November 14, 2012

Sherri's rash (or bright red area) has expanded up her side. It is still painful. No one yet knows what it is.

I had a meeting at the church. The search committee is making progress.

Tuesday November 13, 2012

Sherri had a rough day. She woke up with a painful rash on her stomach. Then, she accidentally took her sleeping pills at lunch time. We went to see Dr. Cunningham about the rash and she wasn't quite sure what it was. She wants her to make sure she doesn't get a fever and she put Sherri on an antibiotic to be safe.

Monday November 12, 2012

Mary Ann took Sherri to her doctor appointment at Allegheny General. First, she saw the pacemaker doctor and then they waited hours to get in and out of Dr. Sokos' office. I left for my meeting at the church at 6:30 pm and they still weren't home. Meanwhile, Lois Jaquish brought in supper. It was so good.

Sunday November 11, 2012

We had our Christmas Shoebox ceremony at church. Many, many shoe box size boxes were filled with gifts and brought in for the Operation Christmas

Child that is headed by Franklin Graham. Each year on this day, church begins with our little kids bringing all the shoe boxes down front and then we pray for them. They will be given around the world to kids who otherwise would not have received anything and most likely have never got a Christmas gift. Of course the Gospel is shared with each one of them.

Saturday November 10, 2012

Jared, Missy, and the kids came over for breakfast and then they helped me burn leaves. We had a lot of boxes that also needed to be burned. Hannah and Brody made several trips from the deck out to the fire.

Danny (and Frank & Lue) were at Slippery Rock from early morning to late afternoon at a swimming meet.

Two years ago today, while in the ER, Sherri went into cardiac arrest and code blue was called throughout the Clarion Hospital. It appeared that she would not make, but she did.

Friday November 9, 2012

It was a year ago today that Joe Paterno was fired.

Thursday November 8, 2012

Jody Kiehl brought supper today. She and Becky visited with Sherri today. Hannah and Brody came over for a while in the evening.

Wednesday November 7, 2012

Last night Cheryl Tack brought over dinner and tonight Mel and Connie Kifer came with supper.

The stock market took a big hit today in light of Obama's victory. Investors had considered Romney better for the job market.

Tuesday November 6, 2012

Sherri and I voted right after work. She had been worried last week that she wouldn't be home for election day, but she was.

We conducted two more interviews at church tonight.

Barak Obama won the battleground states and won the election. The House

remains the same, the Senate remains the same, and the President will be the same. So, expect the same for at least two more years if not 4.

Monday November 5, 2012

A number of women from the church came over today and did a complete clean of the house for Sherri. Then, they made arrangements for meals to be brought in for the rest of this week.

We began our interviews at the church tonight for our associate pastor position. After reviewing over 170 resumes, we had settled on four to interview using Skype. Tonight we did the first two interviews and the other two will be Tuesday night. The two tonight were very encouraging.

Dude and Linda left with about 50 people from the region for Italy. Included in this group's itinerary is a mass with the pope.

Sunday November 4, 2012

Sherri was discharged today. They would rather she had stayed until her INR and potassium levels were just right, but they knew she had enough and wanted to get home, so they let her go. At the same time we were arriving in Clarion, Jared and Missy were getting back from Virginia. So after we picked up a prescription, we stopped over so Sherri could see Hannah and Brody.

Saturday November 3, 2012

I got down to Pittsburgh around 11 am. The plan was for Sherri to have her blood sent to the lab at 3 pm, and if it was ok, she would be discharged by early evening. Around 2 pm the doctor found us out in the lounge and said no matter what it was like, she needed to stay for at least one more day. She cried. Sherri is getting tired of being there. I will go back down on Sunday and hope that she comes home with me. The problem is that they have put her on medicine to control the rhythm of the heart and that medicine is messing up her INR and potassium levels. So, it all needs to be regulated.

I got home around 6 pm and found about 10 people in my yard. The youth group (and their parents) were just finishing up 3 hours of raking all the leaves out of my yard. They were doing it for a service project. I didn't know how I was going to get the tons of leaves I had done since I have been making all these trips to Pittsburgh and my calendar is so full of meetings

this week and next. I was very grateful that they did my leaves.

Friday November 2, 2012

I saw the first snow of the year after work. On my way home, it started sleeting and then there was snow.

I can tell Sherri is ready to get home. She is getting annoyed that they never bring her what she orders for her meals.

Jared, Missy, and the kids had the rehearsal for Brad's wedding this evening.

Thursday November 1, 2012

I spent the day with Sherri. Because she had a roommate, we stayed out in the lounge for most of the day. Before I ever arrived at Pittsburgh, she had already successfully had her heart shocked back into rhythm. They will give her a medicine for her to take long-term that will help prevent it from going back into atrial fibrillation. The doctor told me at the end of the day that she should be ready to go home either Sunday or Monday.

Jared, Missy, Hannah, and Brody left for Virginia for Jared's brother, Brad's, wedding this weekend.

Danny had swimming practice at the newly renovated Hickory Grove pool in Brookville. He received his first two swimming metals for taking two 4th place finishes last Saturday at CUP.

My bedroom TV died tonight at the age of 5.

Wednesday October 31, 2012

Sherri's heart is back in atrial fibrillation. They cannot get the INR level therapeutic. She is very discouraged and I am afraid, she may be getting depressed. I will take off Thursday and go down since they are going to try to shock her heart back into rhythm again.

Hannah and Brody came over for trick or treat. Hannah was a princess and Brody was Scooby Doo. Danny came later as the Grim Reaper.

Tuesday October 30, 2012

The coast of New Jersey is devastated. The pictures were hard to believe. It

seems the Atlantic City Boardwalk is partially gone if not totally destroyed. Hurricane Sandy will go down in history.

Jerri Shingledecker fell yesterday and was taken to the hospital. It appeared she didn't break anything and would be ok. Pastor Jason was there when they took her for a CT scan (or some kind of test, maybe an ultrasound). While she was having her test, Jason heard the announcement of a code blue. It was Jerri. After some time, they moved her to ICU. While Jason was in praying for her, she passed away. Jerri was a long-time member of our church. For years she was our financial secretary. She will be missed.

Dood stopped after work to visit with Sherri. Later in the evening, Rick and Laura came to see her.

Brianna's class went on a field trip this past week. I think they went to a science museum. She got to pack her lunch and was excited about the trip.

Monday October 29, 2012

No real change with Sherri nor any word on when she will come home.

Hurricane Sandy hit the east coast and we got some strong winds and a couple inches of rain today. It isn't over yet as we expect to be affected by the storm on Tuesday. Some schools have canceled for Tuesday, but so far, none have closed in Clarion County.

Sunday October 28, 2012

Luke and Matt cooked pancakes and sausage for breakfast. Afterwards, we had a session on meeting the needs of the congregation and then we had a worship service. Finally, we prayed, one at a time, for every person who worships at FBC. That took a little over three hours. We didn't get lunch until 2 pm and when we were finished we went home.

Sherri seems to be doing ok. They want to get some more fluid off of her before they sent her home. I am guessing she may get home by Wednesday.

Saturday October 27, 2012

Sherri got moved to a regular room by evening. Tim and Becky Brooks visited her today and then later on, Rick and Drew saw her.

We began our meetings at the retreat around 8 am after Matt Beinhaur and Luke LaVan cooked breakfast. Attending the retreat: Jason Hunter, Don Dininny, Ralph Roudybush, Stan Sowl, Tony Terrana, myself, and Luke and Matt. We worked until about 11 pm.

Friday October 26, 2012

Sherri remains in ICU. She went in because her potassium was dangerously high. Now it is way too low.

Eight of us headed to Ludlow, PA, and Olmstead Manor for the Elders Retreat. It is a very nice place. Ludlow is between Kane and Sheffield. We had a session from 8 pm to 10 pm. We are planning on a full day of meeting, praying, and strategizing on Saturday.

Thursday October 25, 2012

They shocked Sherri's heart back into rhythm today. About 10 pm a nurse called and said that her potassium was too high and they had moved Sherri to ICU. The problem with this is now it is very hard to keep up with her since I can't call her.

Lue told me that Jim Leadbetter died today.

Wednesday October 24, 2012

Sherri and I left the house shortly after 6 am for Pittsburgh. Soon after we got there, Dr. Bonnett saw her and did tests on her pacemaker. They found that she has been in atrial fibrillation for the past several days. That could be part or a lot of why she hasn't been feeling well. Next, we saw Dr. Sokos who said he would like to keep her. He believes it may be a relatively short stay, but he wants to check everything out while she is there. She got into her room (571-2) by 11 am.

Tuesday October 23, 2012

I spent most of the day at Westminster College for a seminar on legal issues in education.

Sherri had a doctor appointment with Dr. Cunningham. She called Dr. Sokos. After some discussion between the two, Dr. Sokos said he would move her Thursday appointment with him to early Wednesday morning. He told Sherri to bring her bag, that he most likely will admit her down there.

Monday October 22, 2012

Tonight was my first school board meeting. It was over two hours long. I got home in time to see some of the debate and the end of the ball game. The Giants won and will play the Tigers in the World Series. I will be rooting for Detroit and Jim Leyland.

Sunday October 21, 2012

Sherri is still sick today.

After church, we had a luncheon celebration for Martha Haggerty who is retiring after spending 20 years as our office manager.

Jared, Missy, and family flew home from Myrtle Beach.

Saturday October 20, 2012

Sherri continues to be real sick at her stomach. This is 2-3 days of this.

I worked on leaves for a while and then went up to the church where there was an open house for Leroy Smith, who is celebrating his 90th birthday.

Today was Brian Luton's and Ashely Walker's wedding day at Myrtle Beach.

Friday October 19, 2012

The Giants beat the Cardinals 5 zip to stay alive in the NLCS. I wished I could stay awake for one game this year.

Romney has all but tied Obama in electoral votes. It looks to me that Ohio may be the deciding state in November.

Thursday October 18, 2012

Sherri celebrated her 57th birthday today. Again, she went out for lunch and by the time I got home she was home and worn out. Brianna and Megan called and sang happy birthday to her and then Hannah and Brody did the same from Myrtle Beach. They had a blast swimming in the ocean.

Wednesday October 17, 2012

Sherri went to Share-n-Care and then out to lunch with her friends.

Jared, Missy, Hannah, and Brody were on their way to the airport by 4 pm.

They are flying to Myrtle Beach for Brian Luton's wedding which is this weekend.

Tuesday October 16, 2012

Today, our meeting focused on using testing data to make instructional decisions. The director of Erie County Career Tech Center was the presenter and he was good. He has a great excel workbook that he created. I was on my way home by 4:15 pm. The scenery leaving State College was spectacular. You can see the perfectly colored leaves for miles around as you descend the mountains.

When I got home, Sherri had made stuffed peppers and Fran and Ron had dropped off some apple dumplings.

Monday October 15, 2012

I left Clarion around 8 am for State College. I had a meeting that lasted from 10 am to 6 pm at the Nittany Lion Inn. The purpose of the meeting was to improve academic achievement of career and tech students. It was put on by the Pennsylvania Association of Career & Tech Administrators (PACTA). I have another 6 hour meeting tomorrow on a different topic.

Twila took supper up for Sherri and ate with her.

Sunday October 14, 2012

Jude Pierre preached today. The bottom line of his sermon was: people in Haiti have nothing but don't complain, they praise God that they are alive. The inference is clear.

We ate at Debs and then stopped to see BeeDee and Scott on the way back home. At our place, it is raining leaves. At their place, we saw a strange phenomenon. It was raining pine needles.

Saturday October 13, 2012

Becky picked up Sherri around 9 am to go to Marienville for a baby shower for Jody Kiehl's daughter, Kristen.

I did some leaves and then made a covered dish for church. Jude Pierre was here from Haiti. We give support to his school down there. He showed us the devastation that occurred from the earthquake and how the recent hurricane

affected them. It is really hard to imagine that people live like they do.

Derek Jeter is done for the year after breaking his ankle in the 12th inning of the first game of the American League Championship Series. Detroit won the game.

Friday October 12, 2012

Rick was up for an eye appointment. Afterwards, Twila, Sherri, Rick, and Dude went for lunch. It was kind of a pre-birthday lunch for Sherri whose birthday is next Thursday.

I can't believe those Cardinals. Like last year in the world series, they seemed down and out and then rallied to win. This time, they were down 6-0 to Washington, looking like they were eliminated. Instead, the Nats go home for the winter and the Redbirds move on to face the Giants in the NLCS.

Thursday October 11, 2012

Edith Hulse died Tuesday night. I learned at our elders meeting that she was in the hospital and not doing very well. I said I would stop after work on Wednesday to see her, but of course, I didn't get the chance. Her funeral is Saturday, I believe.

Wednesday October 10, 2012

I went to Wednesday Bible study tonight. The pastor continues to get a large crowd for this study on surveying the Old Testament. It is an intense study with about 45 minutes of homework each day.

Tuesday October 9, 2012

I had a long meeting at school today and then an elders meeting for a couple of hours in the evening.

Monday October 8, 2012

Our school's float, a big Singer sewing machine, gave us another winner. A picture of it will be in Tuesday's Clarion News.

Today was the first day of leaf raking season for me. I spent about an hour and a half after work, but the leaves I gathered were only a small fraction of the leaves already on the ground with tons more to come.

Sunday October 7, 2012

Brody was at the ER in the middle of the night. He was having a lot of trouble breathing. He has the croup.

Janna and the girls left after lunch. I picked up some sandwiches from Bob's Subs. David wanted one brought home.

After they left, Sherri and I went on a little shopping trip to the outlet malls in Grove City. We got home around 5 pm and were so tired, that we were in bed by 6:30 pm.

Jared and Missy went to the Steelers' game and saw them win on the last play of the game.

Saturday October 6, 2012

ALF Parade Day: In the morning, Brianna and Megan came downstairs with me and watched the Chipmunk movie. Later I went over to the school and unlocked the gate and building so Brian and Georgie could get the float. They would meet the students in town for the parade. I got back home in time to put my soup back on the stove and then get Sherri, Janna, and the two girls up near the Presbyterian church, where they met up with the others to watch the parade. Rick had went up in the morning to set up chairs.

While the parade was going on, Lue, Danny, and Tari came to the house. When I returned to let the float back in the school, Lue picked up Sherri, Janna, Brianna, and Megan.

Lots of people showed up for soup and sloppy joes. We even got a surprise visit from Babe and Tracy.

Janna and Sherri took Brianna uptown in the evening to ride a couple of rides. Meanwhile, Hannah and Megan played in a cabin Tari made them out of sheet draped over the table and chairs.

Friday October 5, 2012

Karen called in the morning to take Sherri uptown for the Craft Day. However, Sherri didn't have any energy and decided to stay home.

I grocery shopped, made my soup, and then cleaned all afternoon. Rick stopped in. He came last night and was about to walk uptown when he

stopped in. Later in the evening Laura and Drew came.

Janna and the girls got here before 8 pm. Brianna told us all about kindergarten. Before she ate her dinner, she sang her prayer. Megan and I spent some time watching Mickey Mouse Clubhouse.

Thursday October 4, 2012

After I got home from work, Sherri and I went up town and parked on main street. Our plan was to get something to eat and watch the people and then the kiddies parade. As we parked, it just happened that Gary and Karen had previously parked right in front of us. So we all ate ALF food and visited. Then we watched the parade. Missy and the kids came along just before the parade began.

Janna, Brianna, and Megan are planning on coming Friday night. Of course I will have soup, sloppy joes, etc. Saturday during the day for anyone who stops in.

Wednesday October 3, 2012

Hannah and Brody went on the ALF fire truck rides.

I always like seeing the Clarion River valley this time of year. As I cross the bridge coming home from work, looking up and down the river you can see one of the most nicest displays of autumn.

I watched the last game of the season. No, not the Pirates. Instead I watched the 162nd game of a most amazing, surprising season by the Oakland A's. They won their division, beating the mighty Texas Rangers. And, for the first time since the 60s, a player won the triple crown. Miguel Cabrera of Detroit, led in average, HRs, and RBI.

Tuesday October 2, 2012

The kiddies parade was postponed today due to rain.

We had a search committee meeting tonight. So far 165 have applied for our associate pastor position. We are now in the process of slimming down our list of potential candidates to a dozen or so.

Monday October 1, 2012

Today would have been mom's 77th birthday. I just said to Lue the other day that I wished I had her recipe for apple dumplings.

Sunday September 30, 2012

Today was the old car show uptown.

The Pirates lost their 82nd game this afternoon. That means they will have another losing season. They have the record for all sports in North America. It now stands at 20 straight years with a losing record.

Saturday September 29, 2012

Jared, Missy, and the kids went to Cranberry Township to get their family pictures taken.

The turkey dinner was so good at Deb's last week, I wanted to go again. However, Sherri wasn't feeling very well. So, I picked the dinners up to go. On the way, I saw that the ALF stands were up and running. The town was full of people.

Friday September 28, 2012

Dave McCleary died. He was the owner of Central Garage where we had taken our car for repairs through the 1980s and 1990s. I had also bowled against him back in the 1970s - he was a good bowler.

Every fall I miss mom's apple dumplings. I called Lue to see if she could track down mom's recipe. She said maybe Tari or Fran had it.

Thursday September 27, 2012

Jared and Missy went out for supper so Hannah and Brody ate with us.

David said that Janna and the girls are planning on coming for the ALF.

Wednesday September 26, 2012

Sherri has been wanting me to try a Pepsi-Pot Roast. So, at 6 am, I put a beef roast in the crock pot. I added potatoes, carrots, onions, a package of beefy onion soup mix, and about 10 oz of Pepsi. It slow-cooked all day until we ate at 5 pm. I was really glad we tried it. I hadn't thought it sounded like something I would like, but it was really good.

Tuesday September 25, 2012

On Monday night, the school board named me the interim director of my school from Oct 1 to June 1. Our current director, Bill Powell, is retiring in January. He will use his vacation time and will be finished before Thanksgiving. In January, the board will begin to advertise for a permanent replacement and they hope to have that person begin on or shortly after June 1.

Monday September 24, 2012

With much cooler temperatures, the leaves are starting to make it look more and more like fall. The ALF begins this coming Sunday and the fall colors appear ready to cooperate.

Danny told me he lost another tooth. He said it wasn't really that loose but he worked it out because he wanted the money. I thought this would be his last baby tooth to come out but he said he has at least 7 more.

Sunday September 23, 2012

We went to church, got something to eat, picked up a couple of things at the store, then we went home and did very little the rest of the day.

Saturday September 22, 2012

A new operating system came out for my iPad. It took an hour or longer to install. When it was done, the principle new feature was that Siri was on it. That is where you talk to the iPad and she handles your requests or answers your questions.

We went with the Clarks to Deb's for the turkey dinner. We got there shortly after 4:30 but before we were done, they were standing in line to get in. Afterwards, we played Sequence.

In the morning we learned that Steph Rhoades took her life.

Friday September 21, 2012

Twila went to the church's senior's church picnic.

I cannot believe how fast the leaves are starting to turn. Some are already coming down. I think maybe it's because it was a dry, hot summer.

I heard Dianne Jaeger is doing pretty well after she had knee replacement

surgery.

Thursday September 20, 2012

At supper, Sherri and I began another season of Survivor.

The Pirates fell below .500 and seem likely to extend their record losing seasons to 20. I now expect their general manager, Neal Huntington, to be fired (and maybe Hurdle too).

Wednesday September 19, 2012

I spent the day at Monroeville again. I got home in time to go to Bible study at the church. Tonight was the first of a 13-week study which surveys the Old Testament. There is about a half-hour of homework per day in this study.

Sherri book came that the book club is reading. It is entitled the Shoemaker's Wife.

Tuesday September 18, 2012

I went to a conference at Monroeville today. I was one of four from our school. The others were Bill Powell, Traci Wildeson, and Brent Johnson. The purpose of the workshop is to improve overall academic achievement of Career Tech students.

Missy has bronchitis and they are waiting to see if it might be pneumonia.

Monday September 17, 2012

We had our annual meeting at the church. Don Dininny and Ralph Roudybush were elected to the board of elders. Dave Keihl, Jody Keihl, Deb Morris and Jean Smith were elected to the board of deacons. Our budget was approved and on October 1, we will begin another church year.

Sunday September 16, 2012

Hannah switched rooms two or three times during the night. Both kids were really good. They got up, got their breakfast and then went with us to Sunday School and church.

Saturday September 15, 2012

We lost our power from about 8 am to 1 pm. I made lasagna. Missy and the kids and Twila came for supper. Hannah and Brody stayed over night. Jared

went to his brother's bachelor party. They were going white water rafting if I understand it correctly.

I learned that Austin made the traveling soccer team.

Friday September 14, 2012

The Pirates collapse continues as they have now lost 7 in a row.

Thursday September 13, 2012

Missy came home from work sick in the morning.

I have started to read The Story: The Bible as One Continuing Story of God and His People. Our church is considering doing this as a 31-week series that would be used in the sermon, Sunday School lessons, and for kids of all ages.

Wednesday September 12, 2012

We had a another search committee meeting tonight.

The Elders are planning a weekend retreat during the last weekend in October.

Tuesday September 11, 2012

The Pirates should never play a 19-inning game. Last year, after losing in 19 to Atlanta they went 5-15 in their next twenty games. This year they beat the Cardinals in 19 innings and have now won 5 and lost 15 since that time.

Monday September 10, 2012

Hannah liked her first dance lesson.

Sunday September 9, 2012

We skyped with Brianna and Megan in the evening. Brianna has to memorize a bible verse for every Friday. She said it to her grandmother and me.

Next, we did a face-time with Brody (Hannah was already in bed). This week Hannah will begin dance lessons on Monday and tumble lessons on Tuesday.

Saturday September 8, 2012

We were going to go out to the Strattanville Homecoming today but the bad weather scared us off. By late afternoon, the sun was breaking through the clouds; so I am thinking that they must have got the parade in without anyone getting wet.

The Pirates continue to free-fall.

Friday September 7, 2012

Twila went down to Rick & Laura's for a day or so. They were going to the Pine Richland, Seneca Valley football game. Mary Ann has a grandson (Kim's son) that plays for Pine Richland.

It looks like the rain is arriving earlier than expected. The bad weather is set to play havoc on the Strattanville homecoming Saturday.

Thursday September 6, 2012

Jared and his dad took Brody to Erie to see the eye specialist to confirm that he has Duane's Syndrome. It turns out that he does not have it but he does have some problems with both his eyes that may require surgery. I think Brody needs to see this doctor again in a few months.

Wednesday September 5, 2012

I worked half a day and then Sherri and I headed for AGH for an appointment with Dr. Sokos. He is concerned about getting Sherri's potassium levels right. He wants her to take 1/3 cup of this horrible tasting stuff 3 times per day. On the way home, we stopped for dinner at the North Park Lounge in Cranberry.

Tuesday September 4, 2012

We are still eating corn on the cob. Sherri had me go to Zacherl's on the way home from work. It is still pretty good. It is too bad that we can't spread corn and tomatoes throughout the year.

Monday September 3, 2012

Sherri and I picked up Hannah and Brody at 11 am and went to Clear Creek. Frank had went up at 9 am to grab the shelter by the swimming area. The kids played in the creek and went down to the playground by the river for about an hour. On the way home, we hadn't got back to Sigel before both kids were asleep.

Sunday September 2, 2012

Today was the Walters' reunion at Dude and Linda's camp. It was for all of Faye's descendants and their families. Some rode 4-wheelers. When Hannah and Brody got a ride they didn't want to quit. So, they ended up going on several rides. They also got to play on the swings and slide and play ball. As it got dark, Steve got out his guitar and he and Gayle sang some songs. Gayle also played the accordion for a few numbers. Fireworks were set off to end the evening.

Saturday September 1, 2012

Jared and the kids went to Pittsburgh for his grandmother's 90th birthday. Missy stayed behind because she was running a fever and sick.

I spent most of the morning working on my Sunday School lesson (What is Faith - Faith Perseveres).

Friday August 31, 2012

Well that was quick. The first week of school is over already and the month of August is long gone.

Today featured the 2nd full moon of the month - called a 'blue moon.'

Thursday August 30, 2012

David called today. He said he would be working most of Labor Day weekend. I can't blame him. If he works Sunday, he gets double time and then on Monday, he would get 2½ times his normal rate.

On Sunday, Sherri and I are planning on going to Dude's camp for the Walters' reunion. Then Monday, Lue said my family is going to Clear Creek.

Wednesday August 29, 2012

Sherri went to lunch with Jody and Becky.

I watched some of the speeches from the Republican Party. The smartest was Condoleezza Rice and I liked Paul Ryan's speech.

Again, the Pirates shutout the Cardinals. They looked good the last two nights; perhaps hope is restored.

Tuesday August 28, 2012

Sherri's potassium is dangerously low again. As a result, they will retest her blood again on Thursday. She isn't feeling very well and is real tired.

Twila said that Rick and Laura did make it back home but were tired.

Monday August 27, 2012

Today was the first day of school in Clarion County.

I wonder if Rick and Laura made it home? They were on a cruise in the Caribbean when Tropical Storm Isaac became a concern. The last I knew, they couldn't fly out of Miami, so they rented a car and drove to Orlando in hopes of picking up a flight there. In light of their trip home from Virginia Beach, I am beginning to think they enjoy taking the long road home.

Sunday August 26, 2012

Dale and Elaine Salico showed up at church today. Dale was the pastor at FBC from 1978 to 1988. They now live in California. This month they have been criss-crossing the country, visiting relatives and friends as they make their way to New York, where their daughter lives. During the afternoon, they came to Twila's and then up so see Sherri and I for a while.

Saturday August 25, 2012

The summer is coming to an end. Danny, Lexi, and Austin finished soccer. Alisha and Dan are back at college, and the students are moving back to Clarion. High school and college students begin classes on Monday. I am beginning my 31st year (28 at the Career Center).

Friday August 24, 2012

Sherri had a routine ultrasound today.

Jared, his dad, Garrett Goheen, and Garrett's son went to the Pirate game. They had seats in the front row of the 200 level. In the 9th inning, Jared caught a foul ball hit by McCutchen and in the same inning, Rick, who was sitting in the seat beside Jared, caught one hit by McKenry. The Pirate announcer, Greg Brown, commented on Rick's catch, saying that a fan just made a good play.

Thursday August 23, 2012

Sherri had a good appointment with Dr. Cunningham.

Brianna started Kindergarten.

Wednesday August 22, 2012

Sherri had a good appointment with Dr. Ackers yesterday.

News came out during the afternoon that Dave Beers' daughter, Emily, was found dead at Duke University.

Tuesday August 21, 2012

Hannah got registered for pre-school today.

Today was my first day back to work. When I came home, Sherri had stuffed peppers made for dinner. Jared, Missy, and the kids came over to eat.

Monday August 20, 2012

Brianna had her kindergarten orientation today.

Sunday August 19, 2012

Sherri and I went to the church picnic at the pastor's house. He lives behind the Limestone fire hall. Afterwards, I came home and watched the Pirate game. I had it recorded. I watched all 19 innings - 6 hours.

Saturday August 18, 2012

Sherri and I went over to the County Park to watch Danny and Lexi play soccer. Their teams were playing each other. Afterwards, we picked up Gary and Karen and went to the County Seat for lunch. I spent the afternoon mowing the grass.

Friday August 17, 2012

David called and said that he just learned that his status at work is being moved from temporary to permanent. That means he gets a huge raise.

Jared, Missy, and family went to D.C. This weekend is the shower for Brad's finance.

Gary, Karen, Sherri and I went to Dirty Ehrma's in Brookville for crab legs.

Thursday August 16, 2012

I went over to school today to sit in on interviews for LPN instructors.

Wednesday August 15, 2012

I worked on processing resumes for our associate pastor position for a large part of the day.

Tuesday August 14, 2012

I traveled to Harmarville with Bill Powell and the director from Venango Tech Center for the Career and Technical Education Curriculum Summit. I got back in time for more meetings at the church in the evening.

Sherri and I were very thankful to God for Scott's report. His PET scan showed he is cancer free.

Monday August 13, 2012

After Danny got up, we went to Walmart and then he left before noon to go with Tari. They were going to the Farmers' Inn to as part of celebrating Taylor's birthday.

AGH called and said that Sherri's potassium level was out of the danger range and looking much more normal.

Sunday August 12, 2012

I had to stay after church for an elder meeting that lasted until about 3:30 pm. Twila gave Sherri a ride home from church. They stopped at Deb's for lunch on the way home.

Danny was with David Callender for the day. Holly and Brian took them to Chuck E. Cheese. They dropped Danny off here when they got back. He stayed here overnight. We dined at Sheetz and then came back and played battleship while we watched a Harry Potter movie.

Saturday August 11, 2012

Compared to the hot weekend we had last week, it was really cool today. It was windy and rainy so we decided it would not be wise to take Sherri to Snyder's pig roast. She really wanted to go but didn't want to get any more run down.

Friday August 10, 2012

Judy, Dr. Sokos' nurse, called and said Sherri's potassium was a little better. She is to take extra over the weekend and eat foods loaded with it - such as

white potatoes.

Thursday August 9, 2012

We left for Allegheny General around 7 am and didn't get back until 5 pm. Sherri had to see two doctors and a host of other people. She is doing ok except that her potassium level is too low. That has been causing her not to feel well.

Lue said that she and Tari picked up Danny the night before at Kelly Pines. He camped the past two nights with Cindy and her family, who have been there for most of the week.

Wednesday August 8, 2012

I spent the day at school sitting in on interviews for LPN Instructors.

David said their family was going to spend Megan's birthday (evening) at the Greene County Fair. I hope they made it before the rain came.

Tuesday August 7, 2012

I started to receive a lot of resumes today from seminaries for our opening for an associate pastor.

We ate some tomatoes and cucumbers that Ron had brought in on Monday.

Monday August 6, 2012

Ilene Washington died this afternoon. She had just moved here a few months ago to be near her sister, Joann. It has only been about 6 weeks since she found she had ovarian cancer and that she wouldn't have too long.

Jared's uncle (his dad's, sister's husband) died Saturday. The viewing and funeral was today.

Sunday August 5, 2012

David, Janna, Brianna, and Megan left just after 10 am. It was a very nice weekend. Sherri and Brianna are always sad when it is time for them to go.

Saturday August 4, 2012

I bought a new window air conditioner for the bedroom and put the one there in the kitchen. That made it somewhat cooler in the dining and living rooms.

All the girls went to Ashley's shower. She is Brian Luton's fiancée. After that, we had a surprise birthday party for Megan. I made some food. We had about 23 people over.

Friday August 3, 2012

Sherri and I got back to Clarion around 1 pm. Janna and the girls arrived around 8:30 pm but they had a surprise. David was with them. He found out a couple of days ago that he would be off Friday, Saturday, and Sunday but he decided to surprise his mother. It seems a big belt broke down and normal coal production will be shut down until it is fixed. This was the first David was here since last fall.

Thursday August 2, 2012

Just after noon, Sherri and I drove to Salamanca, NY. Lue had a free room for us and used her credits to pay for a wonderful buffet dinner.

The drive up through Bradford is a real nice trip. I hadn't been up that way in a long time and I forgot how little civilization there is in the northern part of our state.

The room and the hotel were both luxurious. Sherri said if we ever put in new bathroom, she now knows how she wants it to look.

Danny and I hung out in the evening. During part of that time, he read an entire book to me

Wednesday August 1, 2012

Karen took Sherri to the Pittsburgh Mills. They were gone most of the day. I worked on church stuff for about 8 hours. Today was the first of two full moons this month.

Tuesday July 31, 2012

We have more red birds (cardinals) than I have ever seen before.

I had another two hour meeting at the church this evening. We are set to begin advertising for an associate pastor.

Monday July 30, 2012

Sherri had an doctor appointment at Grove City and then I had an Elder meeting in the evening. Danny stopped in during the afternoon to show me his new camouflaged Pirate cap.

Sunday July 29, 2012

Neither Sherri nor Twila made it to church today. Sherri hasn't felt too well the past day or so, especially after she fell Friday morning. Twila has a bad case of bronchitis. She has virtually lost her voice.

Saturday July 28, 2012

Missy returned from Cancun.

David was being trained today to drive the train in the mines.

Friday July 27, 2012

Hannah and Brody came at 8 am and Jared picked them up just after noon. They headed to D.C. along with Jared's parents to see Brad. Brad will be baptized Sunday.

Thursday July 26, 2012

Sherri, Hannah, Brody, and I headed to Clear Creek around 10:30 am. First, we saw the animals. There were quite a few more than the last time I was there, which was several years ago. After spending an hour or two there, we got lunch in the restaurant, then the kids wanted to browse the gift shop. After getting them each a flashlight, they agreed to move on. Next, we went down into the park. They played in the creek for a while and then we went down to the river where there was a playground. On the way home both kids fell asleep. We got home just in time for the storms that came through. I fell asleep as soon as I hit the couch.

This will be my last time to see those animals. I can't stand to see two bears live in an area that is the size of my back porch or for foxes to lay baking in the hot sun. The best way to keep a bear is the way Scott and BeeDee do it. Let them roam in the backyard and then if they want to go to the woods, they are able to.

Wednesday July 25, 2012

Frank, Danny, and I left for the Pirates' game about 9:20 am. That would get us there around 11 am for a 12:35 start. We were held up a little by construction and got near the park around 11:10. When we arrived near the

park, there was traffic congestion everywhere. Since I couldn't find a place to park in about 15 minutes, I dropped Frank and Danny off in front of PNC Park and told them I would catch up with them shortly. However, Pittsburgh wasn't prepared for 34,000 fans on a weekday (an all-time record crowd for a work-day afternoon game). I drove around everywhere on the North Side and then through all the streets of downtown with no luck. Finally, my last hope was to drive to the Allegheny General Hospital. There was one parking spot left. I parked and then made the 20-30 minute walk to the ballpark and got there in the bottom of the third inning, two hours after I had left them. The game was good and it was a perfect day with perfect seats. After the game, we all made the half hour walk back to the hospital.

Tuesday July 24, 2012

The kids came at 8 am and stayed until Jared got home at 5 pm. After lunch we set up the slip n slide and they had a blast for a couple of hours.

Missy made it to Cancun.

Monday July 23, 2012

I worked on Frank & Lue's laptop today. They had a virus. I think I got rid of it. The real question is, will it return?

Today was Missy's 34th birthday. After dinner she headed to the airport. She has a room there for the night. In the morning she will fly to Atlanta, where she will meet up with her friend Nicole. From there they will fly to Cancun and stay until Saturday.

Sunday July 22, 2012

I got up in the morning and made a potato dish for the covered dish dinner after church. Meanwhile, Sherri got Brody and Hannah ready for Sunday School.

After the Pirate game, I made a Layered Fiesta Casserole that Missy wanted for her birthday dinner. The kids came over an hour earlier than Missy and Jared to decorate for her party. Jared made a German Chocolate Cake from scratch as he followed directions and pictures on the internet. It was very good.

Saturday July 21, 2012

Grandma Laura's memorial service was in the afternoon. The Baptist Church was already in use, so it was at the Presbyterian Church.

In the evening, we went to Dude's surprise 50th birthday party. We brought Hannah and Brody home with us to spend the night.

Friday July 20, 2012

Sherri had a hair appointment beside the Pizza Pub at 1:30 pm. I met Don Dininny at the Pub while she was getting her hair done. We finished making plans for Laura's memorial service. Don will deliver the message. Later, Sherri and Becky went to the Pickle Barrel near Cook Forest.

Thursday July 19, 2012

Linda's mother, Barb Ragley, went to the Clarion hospital yesterday. After running tests, they found she had clogged carotid arteries and was sent to Erie for apparent surgery on Friday.

Wednesday July 18, 2012

I went down to the hospital in the morning. Adam and Leah Felmlee were having a new baby. Somewhere around 8:00 am, Arlee Grace was born.

Tuesday July 17, 2012

I had a meeting all morning at school and then one all evening at church for the search committee. It was really hot today.

Monday July 16, 2012

After we all ate dinner, Jared went up on the roof and cleaned out my gutters.

Sunday July 15, 2012

I spent a considerable amount of time working on the church's website as well as on details for our associate pastor search.

Finally we got a fair amount of rain in the evening and night.

Sherri realized today that she forgot about the book club meeting yesterday.

Saturday July 14, 2012

Jared took Brody to the eye doctor. Dr. Diehl believes he has Duane's Syndrome. I am not sure if anything needs to be done or not.

Today was the memorial service for Jared's grandmother.

Friday July 13, 2012

We kept Hannah and Brody in the morning while Missy went to the doctor and to get her hair done. For dinner, we went with Gary and Karen to the VFW for fish.

Thursday July 12, 2012

Twila's aunt, Joan George of Knox, died yesterday or the day before.

I mowed, burned up all my brush, and paid bills. In the evening, I went to the hospital. One of our church members, Ray Karns, was taken due to erratic heart rhythm or something similar. He is staying overnight for observation.

Wednesday July 11, 2012

We went to see Sherri's Nephrologist. She got a good report.

For a few hours, I cut off branches from trees that were overhanging the yard. The midday sun is so hot, it zaps all your energy after only an hour or so. After dinner, we went out to the Beggs's to watch Hannah and Brody ride their bikes.

Tuesday July 10, 2012

It was really nice last week, looking out over the ocean in the early morning, thinking of the amazing creative power of God. But these past few mornings have been equally good. I enjoy looking back into the woods from our deck as the sun begins to break through the trees, watching squirrels and birds come and go. This is one of my favorite things, especially when the mornings are cool as they've been.

Monday July 9, 2012

Back in the regular routine, there were visiting nurses, meetings at the church, bills to pay, etc. But, the weather was much more pleasant. For the first time in ten days, I didn't feel like I was being baked all day in an oven.

Sunday July 8, 2012

Today was a busy day. I finished unpacking in the morning. After church I had a 3 hour Elders meeting. Then at 5 pm, Sherri and I went down to

Limestone to the pastors new home for dinner.

Jason had promised an eggplant dinner for Eileen Washington. Joanne Washington was there as were the Dininny's and Mary Stewart. It was interesting hearing some of Eileen's stories, particularly about the old Negro baseball league.

Saturday July 7, 2012

We got on the road at 5:30 am and home by 4 pm. It always feel good to get back home and to sleep in your own bed.

David and Janna went to the Pirates' game. David spent part of the game sitting beside Kent Tekulve.

Friday July 6, 2012

Today was the last day at the beach. It couldn't have been a nicer week. Everyone had a lot of fun and the weather was nearly perfect the entire week, but very hot.

Most of us took a last swim in the pool (and ocean). Jared and Missy headed home after lunch and an hour later, Dan, Alisha, and Craig left for home.

Sherri and I went for crab-legs and seafood in the evening.

Drew phoned a friend who is staying at the Outer Banks this coming week. The friend suggested Drew come down and stay. So Rick and Laura will drive about 4 hours out of their way Saturday to take Drew to North Carolina.

Thursday July 5, 2012

Today the temperatures were near or at 100°. In the morning Twila and I drove up the beach to see a house that had burned up in the middle of night. I guess fireworks had landed on the roof and started the blaze.

Most everyone spent the late morning and afternoon in either the pool or the ocean. The guys had a long, hard fought game of water volleyball.

Dude and Linda's family went out to eat at Rudee's on the inlet. Twila went with them. Rick's family went for pizza and then off to the go-carts. Sherri

and I kept the kids while Jared and Missy went shopping for clothes. They ate while they were out and then brought us supper back with them.

Wednesday July 4, 2012

Sherri is doing really well on this vacation. Further evidence is that she and Laura went shopping all afternoon.

Today was Dan's 20th birthday and we celebrated it at dinner. Dude grilled hot dogs and hamburgers, Linda cooked corn on the cob and we had cake.

In the late evening, there were fireworks going off up and down the beach. Rick and Drew put off a nice display of their own. Everyone stood out on the deck and watched. To top it off, a large, orange, nearly full moon rose over the ocean.

Janna got a job very close to where they will live and the kid's daycare. She starts next week.

Tuesday July 3, 2012

Another nice but hot day at the beach. Hannah and Brody continue to spend hours in the pool and ocean.

It turns out the two most important medications I forgot at home were refillable. I had the doctor fax a script to Walmart, which is only 20 minutes from the Beach House. So, I am all set for the rest of the week.

After Jared and Missy made a real good Mexican dinner, some of us went down to the playground to watch the kids. Sherri ended up swinging on the swings, feeling like she was a young kid again. When we came back it was dark outside. A group took Hannah and Brody and their buckets and flashlights down to the beach looking for crabs.

Monday July 2, 2012

Sherri made it down to the beach today. It is not easy for her to walk through sand but she did it. She came back up from lunch and then spent the afternoon in the pool. Meanwhile, Brody and I took an afternoon nap.

After Rick and Laura provided a meatloaf dinner, Sherri and I drove to the boardwalk. We watched people for a while and then Sherri went into a

couple of gift shops.

David and Janna signed a contract to build a house. Their new home may be done in December. It will be in Cannonsburg but I think the actual address will be Houston, PA.

I realized that while I was carefully making sure I had Sherri's medicine all straight for vacation, that I had forgotten mine. I have pill box filled through tomorrow. I am not sure what I will do about it.

Sunday July 1, 2012

Twila and I went to the Sandbridge United Methodist Church Chapel. It was the third time we went there. They had a new pastor on this day. It was our day to prepare a meal. I cooked a ham. Hannah swam all day long between the ocean and the pool. It was a nice day for the beach.

Saturday June 30, 2012

We got up this morning to learn a bad storm had hit in the middle of the night. Later, we learned it was wide-spread. Jared and Missy stayed in Fredericksburg and the entire region lost its power from 10 pm through the next morning.

We drove down to the James River where it is several miles across. We took the ferry. It was a fun experience. On the other side, we headed to Captain Chuck-A-Mucks where we had a crab-cake sandwich.

We were in the beach house by 3 pm and everyone got settled and the week of leisure begun.

Friday June 29, 2012

Twila, Sherri, and I left at 6 am. By the time we stopped for lunch at a Cracker Barrel in Front Royal, Virginia, it was already incredibly hot. When we arrived at our hotel in Newport News, it was 105°. We had a good trip and a good day. We had crab-legs and seafood for dinner. Brody and Hannah both got car sick on the way to Fredericksburg. Brody threw up.

Thursday June 28, 2012

Both Sherri and I got our hair cut. I picked up the ham I had ordered and packed. We are set to head south. We should be at Richmond by 1 pm, where

it is suppose to be 101° and very humid.

Wednesday June 27, 2012

David and Janna are exploring the option of building rather than buying. They were meeting with a builder today to get information.

I had lab work done last week. My A1C reading was not very good. Monday, the doctor put me on a new medicine called Victoza. After two days, it has made me very nauseous. I don't know how I will drive to Virginia Beach like this. So, on Thursday I will call the doctor and see if I can trade the medicine for a 2-mile walk each morning and see how that goes. I have also started testing my blood sugar each morning but even that isn't going very well. I cannot get enough of a drop of blood to get a test. I came close to throwing the test meter out the window today.

Tuesday June 26, 2012

Becky and Carol came over and helped Sherri pack for a couple of hours. Meanwhile, I had a meeting at the church for 2 hours. In the evening, we went back out to Tony and Paula's. I shot pool and Sherri visited with Paula. Gregg Smith and Bob Snyder were there too.

Brody went to the doctor for a checkup. Everything was fine but he wants him to see an eye doctor after we get back from vacation.

Monday June 25, 2012

The Joint Operating Committee (our school board) approved a 2-year contract with the teachers at the Career Center. We will pay higher co-pays and deductibles in our healthcare beginning July 1.

Sunday June 24, 2012

Rick and Laura went canoeing at Cook Forest with a group from their church. Their church just opened their new building and they have several hundred worshipping there each weekend.

Danny stayed here while Frank & Lue worked bingo. I timed him running a short circle in the back yard. He began with a time of 23 seconds but later trimmed his time to under 20 seconds. We played flow on the Ipad and then watched 'Who Framed Roger Rabbit.'

Saturday June 23, 2012

Sherri and I went out to Frank & Lue's in the late afternoon for a cookout.

Friday June 22, 2012

Today was our 27th anniversary. We never left the house. We know we will be going out to eat seafood a couple of times in another week, so we decided to save up for that.

It looks like my grass is slowing down and I won't need to mow this week.

Thursday June 21, 2012

Today was the last day of Hannah's basketball camp and the last day for Brody to come over in the morning. I still am not feeling real well. I went up to the church and worked with the pastor and Martha on setting up a new website.

Wednesday June 20, 2012

I hate summer colds and I hope I don't get one this summer. Whoops - too late. I kind of felt miserable today.

Sherri went to the Share n Care picnic. She had fun but she was way too hot when she got back home.

Tuesday June 19, 2012

We had Brody again in the morning while Hannah was at camp. I met Jason Hunter and Don Dininny for lunch. In the evening, we picked up Hannah and went to Tony and Paula Terrana's. Hannah played with their granddaughter, Jade. Sherri visited Paula and Tony, Stan, and I played pool down in his cool basement.

Monday June 18, 2012

Hannah went to basketball camp at North Clarion. Meanwhile, Brody stayed with us from 8 am until noon.

I went to my school in the afternoon at which time our teachers ratified a 2-year contract. Next, the board must vote on it.

In the evening, I went to a search committee meeting and when it finished at 8:30 pm, the pastor and I went to the ER where one of our members (Joanne

Washington) had taken her sister, Eileen.

Sunday June 17, 2012

Brody got up at 6:30. I had to cook pancakes again for breakfast. We took the kids to Sunday School and to Church.

Saturday June 16, 2012

Today was Jared and Missy's 5th anniversary. They went to Franklin for dinner. Hannah and Brody stayed with us for the night. Of course, they both wanted me to cook pancakes for supper. They like to get a bath here. I have them soap up and then I get the removable shower head/hose and spray them down. They think that is fun.

They caught the kid who had stolen Drew's Ipod. It was already sold but Drew recovered the money for it.

I booked a room for Sherri, Twila, and me at Newport News for our first night of vacation.

Friday June 15, 2012

We picked up Gary and Karen and went to supper at the VFW. They have great fish dinners on Fridays. Afterwards, we went back to their place and played a couple games of Racko.

David and Janna looked at a house today in Canonsburg.

Thursday June 14, 2012

Sherri and Karen went shopping at DuBois this afternoon. Sherri needed a swimming suit for vacation.

Wednesday June 13, 2012

Brody said all his ABC's for us tonight at dinner. Jared and Missy brought over dinner from Eat-n-Park. Hannah is still on her pancake kick.

Tuesday June 12, 2012

Brianna and Megan started at their new daycare today.

Drew had his \$400 Ipod Touch stolen at school. Drew still has the rest of this week until he is done for the year.

I am not done catching up with recorded TV shows but a lot closer. Today, I watched the series finale of House and the season finale of The Mentalist. I liked the way they ended House.

Jared's grandmother died early this morning. This is Rick's mother. Rick and Barb are in the middle of a tour of the west. They started in Arizona and are making their way up to at least Yellowstone Park.

Monday June 11, 2012

Danny got up around 7 am. After I came back from getting my car inspected and the oil changed, I filled up the bubble machine with fluid. Danny played with it quite a bit before Frank came to get him around 11:30.

Sunday June 10, 2012

Danny came around 5 pm and stayed the night. We watched the Wizard of Oz.

Saturday June 9, 2012

Around 11 am, Sherri and I left for Butler as did Jared, Missy, and the kids. Hannah had been seeing Chuck E. Cheese commercials on TV and wanted to go there. So we did. Both Hannah and Brody had a lot of fun. Sherri and I returned through East Brady so I stopped at the overlook and took some pictures.

The Pirates won again. They have won 11 of their last 14 games.

Friday June 8, 2012

In the afternoon, I mowed and Sherri went with Karla Callen (Diehl) to yard sales.

Tim and Becky Brooks left for Sandbridge. They and their kids will spend the week there.

Lue got her stitches out. The doctor said he was happy that he had got all the cancer from her nose.

Thursday June 7, 2012

We went to Pittsburgh for a couple of appointments. Again, Sherri got good reports.

Wednesday June 6, 2012

Sherri and Becky Brooks went and got their nails done in the afternoon.

Jared and Missy went to a retirement dinner for three or so teachers at North Clarion. Hannah and Brody stayed with us. We asked them what they wanted for supper. Hannah said they wanted pancakes, so that is what we had.

Tuesday June 5, 2012

Well, I am underway with my summer projects. I always begin by completely clearing out the garage. This gives me a chance to throw away stuff I don't need and thoroughly clean it. It took me several hours.

I had a search committee meeting in the evening.

Monday June 4, 2012

Sherri had two doctor appointments. The first was with Dr. Chaddah. He was surprised that Sherri had ten pounds less fluid and said we could quit given her Bumex by IV and that she could take it by pill. We will see how that works. Next, we went to see Dr. Cunningham. She was also very happy with Sherri's condition. We will see two more doctors in Pittsburgh on Thursday.

After the last appointment, we went to Eat n Park for supper. When I got my salad, I dumped my iced tea and, of course, the entire glass landed on Sherri's lap. That didn't stop her. We finished the meal and then went over to see Hannah's new bedroom suit.

Lue went to Du Bois today and had cancer removed from her nose. They sent it over to the lab and determined if they got it all.

Alisha landed a summer job at Clarion Boards. She thought she was being hired for cleaning duties. However, when they learned of her educational background, they decided she would be more beneficial to the company if she were in the office entering data. Alisha had just been in the Derrick a week ago for receiving a scholarship. I have copied and pasted the article at the bottom of this page.

Sunday June 3, 2012

After church, Sherri I went to Deb's diner for lunch. Sherri got the chicken

and noodle dinner and she thought it was excellent. I ate a little of Sherri's chicken and agreed - you don't get better chicken than that. I had the meatloaf special and it was good also. Afterwards, we took some baby cups of ice cream with sprinkles and stopped at Hannah and Brody's. They were in the middle of playing with play dough.

Saturday June 2, 2012

If it weren't for Sherri, I wouldn't have done it. I don't think I ever have done it before in June. But our house was so cold in the morning, I had to start the furnace. A week ago it was so hot.

Friday June 1, 2012

I got up at 5:30 and Brody was next at 6:30. I cooked pancakes and scrambled eggs for breakfast. Twila came up to eat with the kids. Missy came and picked them up by mid-morning. Jared was to get back home in the middle of the afternoon.

The cool weather continues and should do so for a few more days.

Thursday May 31, 2012

Today was my first day of summer break. I spent the afternoon mowing grass. This was Missy's last day of work. Her co-workers were going out for dinner and Jared is in North Carolina so Hannah and Brody came over at supper time and then spent the night.

Twila and Mary Ann went up to Goble's Funeral Home and had a private session with Grandma Laura and then they followed the hearse to the Cedarview Cemetery for her burial.

Wednesday May 30, 2012

Today was the last day for teachers. We all took in a covered dish for lunch. I got up at 4 am and put on some country-style ribs and cooked them for 7 hours and that is what I took. That concluded 27 years for me at the Career Center and 30 years of teaching overall.

Sherri went to Share n Care and then she and Becky went to lunch at the new restaurant over where Judy's Motel used to be. It is called "Crickets."

Tuesday May 29, 2012

Today was the last day for students. Lue said that Danny finished up and was home by 12:15 pm. It is hard to believe he will be in first grade next year and that Brianna will be starting Kindergarten. She has already taken her enrollment test. Since they are not sure where they will be living in the fall, her parent have enrolled her in a private school that I think is just north of Washington, PA.

Grandma Laura's obituary was in the Derrick today. I have placed it at the bottom of this page.

Monday May 28, 2012

Today was Memorial Day! Frank went up to Clear Creek early and saved the first shelter for us. Sherri and I got there around noon. Ron, Fran, Scott, BeeDee, Tari, Rob, Jess, Austin, Lexi, Taylor, Frank, Lue, Danny, Sherri, and I were the fifteen who went.

We got back at 6 pm. Twila saw us pull in and came up. She told us that Grandma Laura had died had 3 pm. Her obituary will be in Wednesday's paper. Twila and Mary Ann were there when she passed away.

Sunday May 27, 2012

We got up in the morning and had breakfast at the hotel. After David and family left, we headed up the road and stopped at Rick and Laura's and had lunch and a short visit. We got home just in time for a big storm. We got an inch of rain in less than an hour.

Saturday May 26, 2012

Sherri, Twila, and I left Clarion shortly after 11 am and headed to Washington, Pa. So did Jared, Missy and family. We met David, Janna, and the girls in Washington at the Old Mexico Restaurant where we had a late lunch. Afterwards, we checked into our hotel. About a half and hour later, Frank, Lue, and Danny arrived. They were at the zoo all day. David and Janna decided to stay the night so they got a room. Everyone went to the pool where the kids swam for at least a couple of hours. Later we went to the Red Robin for supper. During the late evening, the kids stayed in our room while David, Janna, Frank, and Lue went over to the casino. This is the first we've seen David since December 31st.

Rick, Laura, and Drew were at the Pirate game and saw the Bucs win when

Hague was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded.

Friday May 25, 2012

I like routine and normalcy. So, that made this a good day. I went to work, came home from work, mowed the grass, got fish from the Tavern, and watched the Pirates. That's a typical Friday for us. And in the early evening, as we set on the deck, looking towards the woods at all the floral arrangements of nature, I sensed a moment of contentment. Is this what it feels like all day long, every day in heaven?

Thursday May 24, 2012

No change with Grandma Laura.

I talked to David and he said the girls are getting excited for Saturday. We are getting a room at Washington, PA and the girls are going to come up and swim and hang out.

Wednesday May 23, 2012

Tonight was the finale of American Idol. Phillip Phillips won. There was some good parts of the show but way too much screaming-type songs for my taste.

Tuesday May 22, 2012

Tonight, the committee (which I am on) to search for an Associate Pastor, met for the first time. We are looking for a pastor of families and students. Others on the committee are Matt Beinhaur, Lori Taylor, Jean Smith, Mary McMahon, Deb Morris, Don Dinniny, and Pastor Jason Hunter.

Monday May 21, 2012

Twila and Mary Ann were called to the nursing home in Brookville last night. They were told Grandma Laura's vitals were poor and she was slipping fast. I guess she hasn't eaten in a few days. They came back home around 4:30 am with Laura resting comfortably. However, at 6:30 they were called back up again. Laura survived the day but the end may be near.

Sunday May 20, 2012

After church we had a short business meeting. We approved a committee to search for an associate pastor. The title will be Associate Pastor of Families and Students. I am one of the 7 on that committee.

Saturday May 19, 2012

Today our church put on an all-day event for women. We had a speaker/program coordinator come in from North Carolina. The men put on a dinner near the end of the day. Pastor Jason organized the entire day and did the cooking with help from other men. I went up from 4 pm to 7 pm to help serve the dinner and cleanup. We served chicken cordon bleu. The women said it was a good day.

Friday May 18, 2012

Some time ago, Rita, our receptionist, told me that Dirty Ehrma's in Brookville had all you can eat crab legs on Friday nights. Last night Gary, Karen, Sherri, and I went up and all had the crab legs. They were good and the service was great!

Thursday May 17, 2012

Tonight was our senior recognition banquet at the Zion Baptist Church. I was the MC. The banquet was really nice.

Mike Coull passed his state inspection test so he can now inspect cars as he works out of his dad's garage.

Wednesday May 16, 2012

I reserved 3 rooms a week from Saturday in Washington, PA. Frank, Lue, Danny, Jared, Missy, Hannah, Brody, Sherri, and I are going to spend a night letting the kids swim and play. David, Janna, Brianna, and Megan will be able to meet us there so we will get to see them all. They live about 20 minutes away from where we will be staying. We haven't seen David since December 31.

Tuesday May 15, 2012

Sherri was bent over, looking into the freezer and fell backwards. I don't think she is hurt seriously, but she will probably be sore tomorrow.

I didn't get home until 7 pm. We are negotiating a new contract.

Monday May 14, 2012

Today, I had my formal teacher's evaluation. While we ate supper, Sherri and I watched the series finale of Desperate Housewives. I agree with Lue, who thought they wrapped it up quite cleverly.

Sunday May 13, 2012

Again, Hannah sat with Sherri and me at church and once again she was very good.

After church, we went over to Dude and Linda's for a Mother's Day cookout. After we ate, Linda pulled out a container full of old McDonald fun meal toys. The kids had a blast going through the box and playing with the toys.

Saturday May 12, 2012

I had an Elder's Meeting that started at late morning and was over before 1 pm. While I was gone, a package arrived for Sherri. It was from David and Janna. It was chocolate covered strawberries and cherries. Sherri really like the gift.

I talked to David for a little while today. Not much is new.

Friday May 11, 2012

I cannot believe the school year is quickly counting down. There is only two full weeks left and then the students come one day after Memorial Day before they are off for the summer.

Jared and his dad built a small raised garden for Missy this afternoon. Last year Missy grew tomatoes and other vegetables in pots on their deck so now she feels ready to advance to a more traditional type garden.

Thursday May 10, 2012

Sherri had the new baked sweet potato at Wendy's and she said it was really good. Her mother brought it for her for lunch.

Sherri saw Alisha mowing at Twink's and hired her to mow our yard when she finished down there.

Wednesday May 9, 2012

Sherri is a little better today but still sick.

This is teacher appreciation week and today, lunch was on our director and school. They had pizza, salad, cake, along with a plant and snack. It was appreciated!

Tuesday May 8, 2012

Sherri was real sick today (nauseous with pain). Yesterday, Dr. Chaddah said he thought she could up her Bumex. I called Judy (her AGH nurse) and asked if they thought we could up her medicine. After checking with the doctors, she called back and said yes.

Monday May 7, 2012

We were told by the doctors in Pittsburgh that she should begin to make plans for Ultra Filtration which is likely to be required in the near future. So today, Becky took Sherri to see Dr. Chaddah, who comes to Clarion from Indiana, PA. He is a Nephrologist that comes to the Rehab Centre by Aldis on Dolby Street. He thinks she should go to Pittsburgh sometime and have a permanent catheter put in through the side of her stomach. She may or may not have to have this type of dialysis done permanently, but once the fluid is off, and if her kidneys still function, it can be capped off until it is needed again. The next step will be to talk this over with Dr. Cunningham and then with the doctors in Pittsburgh. The good news is that she may very well be able to do this ultra filtration herself at home for 4 periods of 15 minutes per day.

Sunday May 6, 2012

It was a really nice morning. Sherri was able to go to church today. Hannah went to Sunday School and saw Sherri before church started. She wanted to stay for church so Sherri said she could. She was very good.

Saturday May 5, 2012

The weather forecast said clear skies and no rain after 10 am. So I waited until 12:30 before starting to mow. About 1 pm, it started to rain and I got soaked trying to finish the back yard. After I trimmed some bushes, I rushed to the store and got ingredients to make spaghetti. Jared, Missy, Hannah, and Brody came over to eat with us.

Tonight we had a super moon. It appears to be bigger in the sky because it is the closest to earth that it will get in 2012.

Friday May 4, 2012

Lue said that Frank was preparing for Clarion Township's Cleanup Day that will take place on Saturday. I guess he works all day as vehicles from all over the township bring their junk to the township building. Frank and others will work, getting the stuff loaded into a high-lift that will dump it into bins.

I don't think my township (Monroe) has a day like that. I wish they would.

Thursday May 3, 2012

Sherri decided to cook today. She made a stuffed meatloaf, with red (parsley potatoes), and asparagus. Twila came up. It was very good.

Missy missed school with a severe headache that kept her up all night.

Wednesday May 2, 2012

Sherri, Becky, and Twila went out to lunch and to see the movie "The Lucky One."

The pastor started a Wednesday night Bible study tonight. This first session dealt with the Inspired Word of God.

Tuesday May 1, 2012

A shipment of medicine arrived for Sherri today.

Jared flew to North Carolina today.

Monday April 30, 2012

April comes to an end marking a very dry month. We were over 2" short of rain for the month.

Sherri is facing a little bit of a problem with her Bumex. There is a shortage. Home Infusion Company of Pittsburgh is looking all over the place for a source of the medicine. I am not sure if she will have enough for tomorrow morning

Sunday April 29, 2012

I got up early and worked on my Sunday School lesson and was finished by the time the kids got up. Hannah did stay with Brianna and Megan.

Janna and the girls left around 2pm.

Saturday April 28, 2012

Today marks the 2nd anniversary since Sherri had her open-heart surgery to replace her tricuspid valve. They also installed a pacemaker at this time.

Janna, Brianna, and Megan arrived at 2 pm. I made my vegetable soup. After

Hannah and Brody took their afternoon naps, they came over. We ordered a pizza from the pub.

Just before it was time to pick up the pizza, Hannah said her ear hurt. Missy took a careful look at it, and there on the top of the ear was a tick. I held Hannah while Jared took tweezers and tried to pull it out, but he was having great difficulty. He and Missy thought it best to take her to the Emergency Room. They got it out but said it was really in there. They started Hannah on medicine and sent the tick away to see if it had Lyme's disease.

Grandma Twink was up a couple of times, Dude and Linda were over for most of the evening, and Lue, Danny, and Lexi stopped in for a quick visit. Hannah had asked if she could spend the night with the girls. As I headed to bed, the plan was that she was staying. I assume she did.

Friday April 27, 2012

Brody and Hannah came over in the evening. I was eating fish from the Tavern in my office. Brody pulled up a chair and the two of us dipped fish into ketchup and laughed about it as we ate.

Today was Janna's birthday. She and the girls are planning on coming up Saturday afternoon. They will stay overnight. We are excited to see them.

Thursday April 26, 2012

Sherri had a doctor appointment with Dr. Cunningham. Pittsburgh had asked Dr. Cunningham to begin making a plan in case Sherri would need ultrafiltration somewhere down the road. She set up an appointment with the people by Aldis on May 7 to begin to make these plans.

Wednesday April 25, 2012

I held off until today, but this afternoon I concluded I shouldn't wait any longer. So, I fired up the mower and began what will never end - at least not until November. I know that once you cut your grass, it takes off like crazy. I realize that many people have mowed two or more times already, but I have a personal rule, no matter how early of a spring we get: Never mow before the last week of April.

Lue and Danny stopped by this evening. Lue brought in money for me for winning Tracy's March Madness. Shortly after they arrived, the Beggs

dropped in. The three kids were racing all over the backyard, having a blast.

Tuesday April 24, 2012

We left for Pittsburgh shortly after 6 am for an 8:30 am appointment. Dr. Kanwar said that Sherri is right in the middle - not good yet not bad enough to move to the next step - which is dialysis. She prepared Sherri, however, saying that dialysis is most likely in the future. Dr. Kanwar also said that when she starts dialysis, it may be short-term but it also could be permanent. The problem is that she is getting the most medicine possible at this time and it is barely helping to keep the fluid off.

Sherri wanted to stop at Smokey Bones in Cranberry on the way home for lunch. The ribs were very tough. We told the waitress, who in turn told the manager. She said it was clear that they were not good and that there would be no charge for either meal.

Monday April 23, 2012

This was the worst day for them. Sherri said they came all day long. Some were computer voices and some were real live people. All the calls were soliciting a vote in tomorrow's primary election.

We got lots of snow today but it didn't lay. However, there were accumulations in areas east and north of here.

Sunday April 22, 2012

The kids got up shortly after 7 am and had breakfast, got dressed, and we were at church in plenty of time. Brody was in the nursery for both Sunday School and for Church. Hannah went to her Sunday School class and then sat with Sherri and me during the worship service. She was very good. Jared called this evening and said that Hannah was counting to ten in Spanish.

I am wondering if school will be canceled tomorrow. They are calling for 8-12 inches of snow. Of course, if we do get anything in this range, it would shatter all records for snowfall in the latter half of April.

Saturday April 21, 2012

Jared and Missy went with some friends to Butler for dinner and afterwards they went to see a Christian comedian. For the first time, Hannah and Brody stayed overnight. They got here just after 2 pm. I rented a movie from Direct

TV - "Alvin and the Chipmunks, Chipwrecked." Since the rental is good for 24 hours, as soon as the movie ends it starts again. After dinner Hannah wanted to watch it again, so they did. And, after their baths and as they were getting into bed they watched it a third time. They wanted to watch it one more time but Nana said that was enough for her. I am not sure who won out in the end.

Friday April 20, 2012

On the way home from work, I stopped at the store for groceries. When I got home, Hannah and Brody were there. Jared and Missy came down to help me carry the bags upstairs. Brody wanted to help and he made two trips.

Rick stopped up. He was at his mom's power washing her patio.

Thursday April 19, 2012

Sherri got to see Hannah and Brody tonight.

Wednesday April 18, 2012

It was a long wait today until Sherri got discharged. Finally, around 4:30 pm we were heading up the road. We got home, I gave her the meds through her line, and then set up her pills for the week. It is good to get Sherri back home. Now the goal is to keep her here.

On the way back we learned that Dick Clark died.

Tuesday April 17, 2012

Today was Brianna's 5th birthday. I called and told her happy birthday. Janna said that David left work at midnight yesterday and his truck broke down on the way home.

I called Sherri this afternoon and while we were talking, Dr. Sokos walked into her room. I said I would call her later but she said to wait a minute; that Dr. Sokos wanted to talk to me. The first thing he wanted to tell me was that he thought the Pirates bats would soon come alive. Secondly, he said I could come down and get Sherri on Wednesday afternoon. She is to come home and I am to continue the Bumex via IV until Monday.

Monday April 16, 2012

Jared stopped to see Sherri on his way to the airport. He will be working in

North Carolina the next 3 days.

Frank, Lue, and Danny were due back from Florida today.

Sunday April 15, 2012

I didn't go to Pittsburgh today but Rick went over and Jody Kiehl went down to see Sherri.

Saturday April 14, 2012

I got down to Pittsburgh around 10:30 am and spent the day with Sherri. She seemed to be doing pretty well. I got to have a good talk with the doctor. She said that they will give it another day or so to see if the medicine will take the fluid off of Sherri. If it doesn't start soon, they will do ultra filtration. The problem with dialysis is that there is a risk. There will be a chance that once dialysis is done, the kidneys will never function right again and dialysis will have to be done permanently for the rest of her life.

Dood Himes came over in the afternoon. She said she has been preparing (and spending all her time at work) for Earth Day next Saturday. [Click here](#) to see the Pittsburgh Earth Day website. You will see a picture of Dood there.

Brianna received a surprise birthday party at Janna's sisters today.

Friday April 13, 2012

Sherri had an ultrasound to determine where exactly is the fluid accumulating. Pastor Jason went down to see her in the late morning. I went home, listened to the Pirates fail to get a hit (except the pitcher got one) and then went to bed real early.

Thursday April 12, 2012

I hurried home from school to take Sherri to a doctor appointment with Dr. Cunningham. On the way, she told me that she thought she might as well go back to Allegheny General. Dr. Cunningham called down and they said that they would admit her. So we went home, got her things ready, stopped at Perkins and ate supper, then headed on down. We got there around 9:00 pm. She has a nice room, very spacious and only one bed in it. I only stayed a half hour and then headed back home. I got to sleep around midnight. I plan on spending the day with her Saturday.

Wednesday April 11, 2012

I had a dentist appointment in Oil City. Sherri rode up with me and then we stopped and ate on the way back. She had her hair done today.

Tuesday April 10, 2012

School resumed today. I could have used another week.

BeeDee said Scott is not having a good day.

AGH called and asked Sherri if she would like to come down and be admitted since she still can't get rid of fluid. She said she would rather stay home and try the IV bumex for a few more days. So they were contacting Infusion Partners to send more medicine to the house.

Monday April 9, 2012

Today was the last day off. Counting the weekend, we had 6 straight days with no school. I hate to say it, but I am ready for another 6. We didn't do very much today. I had meeting at the church during the evening.

Despite giving Sherri Bumex by IV, the fluid still won't come off of her. I am not sure what will be next.

Sunday April 8, 2012

Today was Easter. I got up at 4 am to put the ham on. We went to church early. Afterwards, we went to Twila's for Easter Dinner.

Sherri got tired, so after Hannah and Brody had their egg hunt, we came back up home. Hannah and Brody got their baskets from us and then Sherri laid down while I watched the Pirates' game and then the end of the Masters tournament.

Saturday April 7, 2012

Hannah and Brody spent the day going from one egg hunt to another, including stops at Shippenville and the Moose. Dude and Linda had arranged the day.

Lue called and said they are having fun. She found it hard to believe the first week is coming to an end already and that Cindy's family will be heading home tomorrow. Danny went down the big slide today at the water park.

Friday April 6, 2012

Today was Good Friday 2012. We left for Pittsburgh before 7 am and didn't get home until after 6 pm. Sherri is holding a lot of fluid so I asked if I could give her Bumex by IV for a few days and also if they would let her resume her one fluid pill that they had pulled a month ago. They agreed to both. So after we go home, the visiting nurse came and put a line into her port for me to access.

Jared, Missy and the kids went to Kraynaks to see the Easter display.

Janna arrived at her parents, so she, David, and the girls are all together again, permanently, for the first time since the beginning of January.

Thursday April 5, 2012

The Pirates lost their first game of the season by a score of 1-0. They got great pitching from Erik Bedard, who looked really good to me. The trouble is, he was up against Roy Halladay, the best pitcher in baseball.

We had the last choir practice tonight. While I was there, Missy came over to visit her mother.

Wednesday April 4, 2012

Hannah came over and stayed for a couple of hours while Missy took Brody to the doctors.

I went to Tenebrae tonight and then came home and watched the first game in the Marlins new ballpark. The World Champion Cardinals beat them.

Tuesday April 3, 2012

This was the last day of school for a week. It has been a long time since I needed a break as bad as I need one right now. Things at school have been crazy.

Sherri and Becky Brooks went out for lunch and to the nail spa to celebrate Becky's birthday.

Jared, Missy, and the kids were over for supper. After we ate, all of us skyped with David, Brianna, and Megan. Everyone had a great time seeing and hearing each other.

Monday April 2, 2012

You would expect Sherri to get rested up after spending 6 days in the hospital. Instead, she cleaned and organized and who knows what. She is planning to get out for lunch on Tuesday and then go to get her nails done. I guess after being in the hospital, you are ready to get out and get living.

I got back up to watch the last ten minutes of the Kentucky - Kansas game. I had picked both of these teams to be in the final game with Kentucky winning - and they did.

Lue said it is hot where they are in Florida. It was 91° today and it is expected to be the same for the next two days before cooling off to the mid 80's.

I got Sherri a follow-up appointment in Pittsburgh this Friday.

Sunday April 1, 2012

This was a long, eventful day. I got up at 5 am to finish my Sunday School lesson. I had to be at the church for choir practice at 8:15 am. There was a brunch there until my class started at 9:30. After church, we had more choir practice until 1 pm. Sherri then called and said to come to get her. I got down to Pittsburgh around 3 pm and she had just completed the discharge procedures. So we jumped in the car and Sherri is now home.

Janna couldn't get a big U-Haul so she and her dad had to each drive a smaller one back to Washington. She went back today and David and her parents have the girls.

I talked to Lue when they were about an hour and a half from their destination in Florida. She said Danny never slept one bit the entire way down.

Saturday March 31, 2012

I left for Pittsburgh around 10 am to go down to bring Sherri home. Her potassium level was too high so I came back home without her. I expect her to come home on Sunday.

Today was the day Janna and her dad were moving their belongings. The

girls are already at Janna's parents.

Friday March 30, 2012

After work I ran a few errands and then went out to see Danny Wilson before he headed off to Florida Saturday morning. I used to be the only person with a pickle card, but Danny joined the pickle card club tonight.

I stopped to see Hannah and Brody on the way home. As I was leaving, they all walked with me out onto the front porch to see me off. Then Hannah bolted back inside, locking her parents and Brody out. And, she took her good ole time letting them back in. It made me ponder of what it'd be like in another dozen or so years?

I learned Deb's Diner will close for a week beginning the day before Easter (I think).

Jamie Moyer is expected to pitch next weekend for the Rockies. If he wins, he will be the oldest Major League player ever to win a game. He is 49.

Rick, Laura, and Drew stopped over at AGH to see Sherri.

Thursday March 29, 2012

Sherri had a categorization today. It showed the pressure in the right chamber was a little better than they expected. If all goes well, she may get home Saturday.

Wednesday March 28, 2012

Sherri is doing well and they started to give her meds through an IV drip today. A nurse in the Heart Failure Clinic felt bad that she was going to be alone for the rest of the week, so she went up during her break and did Sherri's nails for her.

Jared had some kind of procedure done on his chin. He and Missy were down at the hospital most of the day. Missy had some tests done while she was waiting on Jared.

Tuesday March 27, 2012

Sherri and I went to see Dr. Benza today. Sherri has gained ten pounds of fluid in the past 16 days. She told the doctor that she really wasn't feeling

good and that if he needed her to stay, she would be fine with that. He thought that a good idea and told me she should be ready to go back home by Saturday if everything went well.

Monday March 26, 2012

It was a strange day at work (lots of situations to handle) and it was a long one. I got home around 7 pm. We are working on a new contract.

The Pirates announced today, that although Pedro Alvarez continues to struggle, he will start the year on the major league roster and not be sent to AAA.

Sunday March 25, 2012

I got home from church around 1:30. Sherri and I went over to Pylers to eat and then on to see Grandma Laura. I don't know what she was saying, but she talked nonstop for over an hour.

David left York for the last time. The rest of the family leaves next weekend, however, Janna will return for one more week of work while she stays with friends.

The Beggs family got back from D.C. by mid afternoon.

Saturday March 24, 2012

Sherri and I slept in today. I worked on my Sunday school lesson for a few hours and then we caught up on a few recorded TV shows. I grilled a couple of fillets for supper and that is the highlight of this lazy, do-little day.

Friday March 23, 2012

Sherri's kidney functions are not quite where they should be so AGH called and backed her off some of her diuretics. Dr. Benza wants us to come down to see him on Tuesday.

David went back home to York Thursday evening where he will spend the weekend. He is loading some things to take back with him. He said Janna had almost everything packed up. Next weekend, Janna's dad will drive a truck with all their furniture and boxes to Washington, Pa. David said that Brianna wanted lasagna for dinner so that's what he was making when I talked to him.

Jared, Missy, Hannah, and Brody left town around 5 pm for Washington D.C. They were going down to see Brad's new house and visit Brad and his fiancé for the weekend.

Thursday March 22, 2012

Today was another record-breaking day. The hot weather should last one more day. The Pirates open at home one week from today, I thought, "now wouldn't that be something, if after all this unseasonable weather, they would begin regular season play with snow.

Wednesday March 21, 2012

Jared and Brody got home from the ER around 1 am. Brody was put on an antibiotic and told to get a Lyme Disease test in 2 weeks.

Tuesday March 20, 2012

We were very close to a record high today. It was very warm by the time I got home from work. I lit the grill for the first time this year and grilled hot dogs and hamburgers. Twila came up and the Beggs' came over.

As I was going to bed, Missy called saying that Jared was taking Brody to the ER. When he was getting his hair washed, they found a tick in his head. Jared removed it but it was bleeding a lot.

Monday March 19, 2012

The crazy weather continues. This was the last day of winter but temperatures continue to be very high. Chicago is expected to have 7 straight days in the 80's. On the other hand, Arizona saw over a foot of snow.

Sunday March 18, 2012

I watched some basketball today and did little else after church. I taught today on the first miracle of Jesus - changing water into wine.

Saturday March 17, 2012

One of Jared's business associates got him tickets for the basketball games at Pittsburgh. He and his dad saw the Syracuse game and the Ohio St. game.

Sherri was discharged in middle of the afternoon.

Unbelievable, but our house was too warm. Before I could get to sleep, I had

to open the windows on turn the fan on.

Friday March 16, 2012

After school I stopped at Sherri's hospital room for a couple of hours. Afterwards, I thought I would pick up a fish dinner on the way home. I didn't have any cash so I stopped at Comet Market. I bought a few things and used my debit card to get cash back. I got \$50. I dropped off the groceries at the house and started off to pick up the dinners. I thought I would pull a \$10 bill out of my wallet to pay for the dinner. I discovered I had no cash. Did I lose it or didn't I get it from the cashier. I called Comet and they said they wouldn't know until after 10 pm when they counted the registers. So, I went to the ATM for more cash. At 10:15 they called and said they had an extra \$50.

Thursday March 15, 2012

I had Sherri order me a tray and I ate supper with her. She got baked chicken and ordered me chicken-a-la-king.

Today the NCAA basketball tournament started. Kentucky, of course, is the favorite to win it all. The Pirates scored 10 runs in the first inning of their spring training game today against the Twins.

Wednesday March 14, 2012

It's hard to believe, but today we began the last grading period.

Sherri is getting lots of Bumex so I am hoping the fluid to come off quickly.

Tuesday March 13, 2012

Sherri remains in the hospital. Dr. Rhoades called Dr. Sokos and he said to give her some diuretics and keep her here.

Sherri's dad would have been 73 years old today.

Monday March 12, 2012

Sherri got her blood work done today in the early afternoon. By 4:00, AGH called and said her potassium was extremely high. It may be another bad test or the real thing; we had to head off to the ER to be sure. The potassium was high but not as high as first thought. They thought it best to keep her overnight. I had them call AGH to see if they agreed and they did. I am glad she is there. She has been very sick since Friday - very nauseous. As we left

the house to go to the ER, she fell on the steps and was hurting from that as well as everything else.

Sunday March 11, 2012

Four years ago today, Drew had to have his appendix out at the Butler Hospital.

I did the sermon today on 'The Cost of Discipleship'.

Saturday March 10, 2012

I worked on the sermon for most of the morning and into the afternoon. After a trip to the pharmacy and then the store, it seemed like the day came and went in a hurry.

Twila went with Dude and Linda to Washington, PA to see Dan get installed as the vice president of the student organization. He was then to play in a double-header.

Friday March 9, 2012

I took my car to get serviced in the morning. On my way to Seidle's, I got wondering when my inspection was due for this vehicle. Always in the past, my vehicles inspections were due in June; but I had just bought this Terrain last May, so perhaps it would be in April. When I looked, I was surprised to learn that it should have been inspected in February and that I had been driving illegally for the past week.

Pastor Jason, along with his entire family, has been sick with the flu. They are running fevers and the works. I was just about finished with my Sunday School lesson for this week when Jason said it was most likely I would need to do the sermon as well. I now know what I will be doing Saturday.

Thursday March 8, 2012

Sherri had two appointments at Pittsburgh. One was with the pacemaker doctor and the other with Dr. Benza. They were switching all records to e-files so the appointment took a long time. Afterwards, she was sent to the lab and then for an ultrasound. It was a long day at AGH. On the way back, we stopped at Children's Hospital to see David Jaquish. We found he was about to be discharged. They found nothing wrong with him but do not know why he has been having seizures.

One year ago today, Sherri had surgery on her urinary tract. The surgery was very tough but it fixed the problem. I do not think she has had a UTI in the past year. After the surgery, she was placed in ICU. At the same time, Missy was placed in ICU at Clarion for pneumonia.

Wednesday March 7, 2012

Today was spring-like, reaching a high near 62°. Of course spring is only two weeks away and just this coming Sunday morning, we will turn the clocks ahead and begin daylight savings time.

Tuesday March 6, 2012

Today was Super Tuesday. Nothing was decided. Romney is still in the lead but Santorum is still in it. This is really long and boring. We are just two years away from people starting to announce they will be running in 2016. Anyway, I am still pulling for a brokered convention and the call for Jeb Bush to step forward.

Monday March 5, 2012

It has been the normal pattern of the Pittsburgh Pirates for years. They bring up a promising young player from the minor leagues and as he develops to the verge of being good, they trade him for new young players that never pan out. Today, they may have signaled the end of this proved-not-to-work way of doing business. The Pirates appear to have signed Andrew McCutchen to a new 6-year deal worth over \$50 million.

Sunday March 4, 2012

Jared, Missy and the kids came over for supper - stuffed peppers.

Saturday March 3, 2012

Jared and Missy went shopping and then to the Iron Bridge.

David was to look at 4 houses today around the Washington, PA area.

Friday March 2, 2012

Our church showed the movie Courageous at the Clarion High School Auditorium tonight. It was a very good movie, especially for fathers; but anyone would enjoy it and be encouraged by it.

Another unbelievable day of tornadoes. First report is that at least 18 are

dead in Indiana and Kentucky.

Thursday March 1, 2012

Jared celebrated his 31st birthday. The kids sang happy birthday to him as they gave him a cupcake with a candle on it. His mom and dad are having a dinner for him on Friday evening.

Wednesday February 29, 2012

We got lots of rain today, over $\frac{3}{4}$ inch. However, in the midwest, they got horrible tornadoes in 7 states, killing 12. It is very unusual for this to occur in February.

In the afternoon, we learned that the Monkees' Davy Jones died.

The last I heard this afternoon, Rich and Lois Jaquish were waiting for the weather to clear so they could life-flight David, their young son, who had a seizure.

Tuesday February 28, 2012

The third student of the Chardon, Ohio shootings died today. Some of us were talking at work and we agreed that this could happen anywhere, including our school. I asked one of my classes today what they thought of a comment I heard recently - that 80% of all high school students either get picked on or they are the ones picking or teasing others. They said they disagreed with the study that produced these results. They were certain that the number is almost 100%. Think about it. If that is true and if you have a kid in school, they are most likely either getting picked on, picking on someone, or both.

Monday February 27, 2012

Sherri has been wanting mashed potatoes with hamburger gravy, better known as gravy train. I came home from school and made it for her. She was as happy as a lark.

Before we went to bed, we both walked out on the deck to look at the clear night sky. It was supposed to be a rare sight and we saw it. The crescent moon was lined up with Saturn and Venus. All three were bright, a really cool thing to see.

Sunday February 26, 2012

During the evening, I went to the funeral home for the viewings of Betty Jones and Ron Perry. They were both at Burns' Funeral Home and the times of their viewings overlapped.

Saturday February 25, 2012

I was still miserable today and now I think Sherri may be getting sick.

Friday February 24, 2012

By the time I got to school today I learned that Ron Perry had died Thursday evening. Shortly after that, word came that Betty Jones had died. She was Sandy Sowl's mothers.

I worked all day but if I had it to do over, I would have stayed home. I felt miserable all day. As soon as I got home, I went to bed for a few hours.

Thursday February 23, 2012

Scott got home last night.

I was hoping to make it through the winter without having school canceled even once and without getting a bad head cold. Only one of those two goals remain alive.

Wednesday February 22, 2012

I went to choir practice at the church. I thought I ought to try this once in my life, so when they asked for men to sign up for the Easter Choir I decided to give it a shot.

I learned today that the doctors are very suspicious of the results Scott will get back after his surgery on Tuesday. He is in the UMPC hospital up at Seneca but I'm not sure how long he will be in. They are already talking about chemo. I feel really bad. I bet Scott is rather discouraged at the moment.

Tuesday February 21, 2012

I will resume teaching Sunday School this coming Sunday. Today I began to make plans for the spring quarter. We will spend almost the entire spring studying the book of John.

Monday February 20, 2012

Today was an Act 80 Day. Midday, our staff went over to Keystone

Elementary to hear a presentation on Cyber Bullying.

I learned today that Ron Perry is in grave condition after suffering a heart attack over the weekend. Ron has been our school board president for years and years.

Sunday February 19, 2012

Today the Pittsburgh Pirates officially got A.J. Burnett from the Yankees. Burnett has 2 years left on his contract and is owed \$33 million. The Yankees will pay \$20 million of that. I think it is a good deal for the Bucs. Getting out of New York and all the pressure that comes from playing there, I think he may do very well in Pittsburgh.

Saturday February 18, 2012

Sherri got home today at 10:30 am.

I listened to the C-L vs. Union basketball game during the afternoon. They were playing for the conference championship. C-L has only won three league titles in their history: 1955, 1961, and my senior year (1971). Would they make it #4? Well, C-L came from behind to win by 2 points to end the 41-year drought. I always considered winning the conference to be much more of an accomplishment than winning the district. Congratulations to the CL Lions.

I went down to Twila's at 5:30 for Drew's birthday party. They had Pizza Pub pizza and salad and an ice cream cake. Sherri was too tired to try it. Missy, Jared, and the kids were there. As all boys do when they turn 15, Drew is dreaming of the day he will be driving a car and is hoping he gets a hot, fast car for his 16th birthday.

Friday February 17, 2012

Sherri was doing much better today. She was eating solid food and we have hopes that she will get back home on Saturday.

Drew turned 15 years old today. He, Rick, and Laura are coming up Saturday evening at which time we will celebrate his birthday.

Janie (Bevevino) Campbell's dad died today. Dave (Red) was my first baseball coach when I was 8 years old. By the time I was in high school, he

was refereeing many of my basketball games.

Thursday February 16, 2012

Sherri was taken back for an x-ray which showed the procedure they have been trying worked. Her bowel had been twisted and now it is back to normal. They said she should start feeling better soon.

I heard that Scott will be having surgery next week.

Wednesday February 15, 2012

Sherri had several tests today. They did a test for the flu and it came back negative. After looking at x-rays and other things, they have determined she has an obstruction in her bowels. They seemed to be twisted. They put a hose down into her stomach through her nasal passage. They are hoping this gives her relief and then gets everything moving. If this doesn't work, she may be on to Pittsburgh.

Tuesday February 14, 2012

Sherri threw up all through Monday night and then all morning today. She was in bad pain in her stomach and very sick. When the visiting nurse came in the early afternoon, she called Dr. Cunningham and they sent for an ambulance. Sherri was admitted. They are not sure if she has a virus or something else like pancreatitis.

Monday February 13, 2012

I had a meeting at church. We made final plans for the movie the church is going to show at Clarion High School. The movie is 'Courageous' and will be shown Friday March 2 and is free to the public. Tickets can be obtained at the First Baptist Church Office (226-8233). Next, we began to make plans to begin a search for an Associate Pastor (of Families and Students). The next step is to get a consensus from the membership that this is a good idea.

Sunday February 12, 2012

After church we went to Deb's for lunch. They had turkey & stuffing and stuffed pork chops. Sherri got one and I the other. They were both good.

I watched some of the Grammys and was not surprised that Adele won a record-tying 6 awards.

Saturday February 11, 2012

Brody's birthday party was this evening.

We got a reminder of what winter is like. When we left to go to Brody's the wind chills were around 0° and the roads weren't very good.

Friday February 10, 2012

I talked to Pastor Keith Richardson today. I had been wanting to give him a call to tell him how sorry I was that his dad had past away and to see how he and family are doing. Keith sounded well but tired.

Two rumors are flying. One, that Hines Ward is done as a Steeler. Secondly, it is being speculated that A.J. Burnett will be traded from the Yankees to the Pirates. The Yankees owe him \$33 million and the Bucs may only have to pay him \$8 million of that with New York paying the rest.

Thursday February 9, 2012

On my way to work, I noticed the full moon about to set. The bottom of the large disc was touching the horizon. Then I turned at Rhea's Corners to go south. To my left was the sun, a large bright orange-red ball with the bottom just brushing the horizon. I looked back and forth a few times wondering if I had ever seen this before in my (now) 59 years. I then began to praise the Creator thinking how wonderfully talented He is.

I got lots of birthday wishes and cards today. Brody and Hannah came over again and Danny dropped in for a while. Brianna and Megan called and sang Happy Birthday on the phone.

Of all the birthdays in my past, I usually recall my 11th. It was a Sunday and we were having cake and ice cream at our house. In the evening, my Granddad Leadbetter asked if we weren't going to go into the living room and turn on Ed Sullivan. He went on to say that the Beatles were going to make their first appearance in America. I had no idea what he was talking about. I thought maybe this was a bug act. I have since learned who they are. Their music has never been replaced as my favorite of all time. Who would have ever guessed that my Granddad Leadbetter would have introduced me to the Beatles?

Wednesday February 8, 2012

Hannah and Brody came over at 4 pm and stayed until 7. Their parents came at 5:30 and we ordered from the Pub. We sang happy birthday to Brody a

couple of times and then he would blow out two candles we put on a cupcake. Lue and Danny stopped by and gave Brody a gift.

Twila was up and she brought strawberries and angel food cake for my birthday. She hasn't been feeling very well. She was told today that she either has bronchitis or pneumonia.

Two years ago today I got a call just before 2:30 pm, saying they were about to take Missy's baby. I left school in a hurry and at 2:55 pm Brody was born. Just a few hours later, due to rapid breathing and undeveloped lungs, they transported him by helicopter to Du Bois where he stayed for 3 nights before coming home.

Tuesday February 7, 2012

Just when I thought Romney had sewed up the Republican nomination, Rick Santorum won three primaries tonight. It makes me wonder if the party can unite behind any one candidate to defeat Obama in the fall. Anyway, it seems the election has been going on forever and it is really just getting started.

Monday February 6, 2012

It continues to be surprising how warm and sunny it is most days. Though winter has a long way to go and I have seen big snowstorms in March, nonetheless, I am hoping we can make it the entire year without losing a day of school. I cannot recall if that has ever happened.

Sunday February 5, 2012

I fell asleep in the Superbowl at the beginning of the last quarter and I was somewhat surprised to find out later that the Giants had won.

Saturday February 4, 2012

Today our Elder Workshop began at 9:00 am and lasted until 4:30 pm. It was a long day but the meeting was very profitable.

As soon as I got back, Sherri and I went down to Gary and Karen's. Karen made ribs. She had a great supper and then we played three games of Sequence. Finally, Gary and I beat the girls. We discussed the idea of making a trip this summer to Sleeping Bear Dunes and The Apostle Islands.

Friday February 3, 2012

Sherri and I went out to dinner at the Loomis with Pastor Jason, Shelly, and their son Caleb. Afterwards, we came back to the house and talked for another couple of hours.

Thursday February 2, 2012

The groundhog saw his shadow, so six more weeks of winter.

I was sad to hear that Pastor Keith Richardson's father passed away today.

Wednesday February 1, 2012

February began as January ended. Warm! Today was like a day in the middle of April. The month of January was 147° above normal for a daily average of 4.7° warmer than usual.

Tuesday January 31, 2012

Three years ago today, Frank walked out of the post office and into retirement.

The visiting nurse came and did Sherri's blood work. For the second time in two weeks, the results came back reporting very high potassium. We had to go to the ER from 4:30 pm to 7:00. As before, the results were normal indicating another bad test in the afternoon.

We got home just before 8 pm and soon after learned that David and Janna's house sold. They have a contract with a closing date of March 29.

Monday January 30, 2012

Jody and Becky took Sherri to her urologist appointment in Grove City. Everything was fine and he will see her again in six months. I was glad they took her so I didn't have to take off of work. After her appointment, they went to Rachel's for lunch.

Jared and Missy refinanced their house today, taking 10 years off of their mortgage.

Sunday January 29, 2012

Sherri stayed after church for a women's luncheon. About 50 stayed as they are beginning a second round of Secret Sisters. Each woman secretly draws

the name of another. They pray for their secret sister and often they will get them little tokens of appreciation. They remember them on their birthday.

David called. He said things were going well. He is a little disappointed. He had started this job with some apprehension that it might be very physically demanding. As it turns out, it is quite the opposite so far. There is a lot of downtime and David would prefer staying busy.

This past Monday, a miner on another shift became sick with flu-like symptoms. He went home and then sought medical help Tuesday morning but died soon after. He had a rare form of bacterial meningitis. The mines were cleared and all workers were offered antibiotics. They sent a doctor in to talk to everyone. No one knows where the deceased man contracted the disease.

Saturday January 28, 2012

Sherri talked to Janna last night. She said her computer has crashed so she hasn't been online. She said the girls have been missing their dad.

I stopped over to Aspen Lane around noon and helped Jared carry their new treadmill down to the basement.

Friday January 27, 2012

January seems to go faster when we are not buried in snow or covered with ice. It seems hard to believe that this is the last weekend of January already.

Jared got home from Vegas.

Sherri and I called Danny Wilson to congratulate him on his good report card and for making the Principal's List. He gets to eat lunch with the Principal two times. Lue called back later to see if Danny talked to us. I was surprised and found it quite humorous that when Danny gets a phone call, he goes into his bedroom and shuts the door so he has privacy. Perhaps the teen years are beginning early at the Wilson's home.

Thursday January 26, 2012

When I went to bed for the night, the temperature was 35°. It is supposed to be 50° by the time I get up at 4:30 am. What a difference from the past several Januarys.

Wednesday January 25, 2012

Missy had to get her hair done after school. Rick and Barb picked the kids up at daycare and dropped them off to Sherri around 4 pm. They stayed until almost 8:00. Hannah put on a show for Brody while Brody roared and laughed.

Tuesday January 24, 2012

Jared left flew out early this morning to Las Vegas where he will work the rest of the week.

Twila was going to take Sherri to a doctor appointment but she had to get Becky Brooks instead. Twila has been sick for a couple of days.

Monday January 23, 2012

I went to the hospital at 11:00 am to get an echo of my heart that the doctor had ordered just to make certain there are no problems. I stayed at school until 6:30 pm for a contract negotiations meeting. Our contract expires this coming June.

Sunday January 22, 2012

I was sitting in church when my iPod softly beeped, meaning breaking news was coming in. I glanced down and saw that Joe Paterno had died. I couldn't help think of how disappointed that he must have been these past few weeks. As he likely knew that he was reaching the end, and as an icon who was always concerned about the reputation of PSU and their football team, well to have the scandal tarnish all that must have been more painful to him than the cancer that killed him. He will be fondly remembered and greatly honored this week, as he should, but every report I've seen so far contains the word 'however.' That's sad!

Saturday January 21, 2012

Sherri and I never rent movies anymore. We really never see anything we want to watch that might be worth paying for. Tonight we rented (from Direct-TV) Moneyball. It was a movie starring Brad Pitt about Billy Beane, the Oakland A's general manager who built a team that won over 100 games with one of the lowest payrolls in baseball. During that year, 2002, they won a record 20 games in a row. It was very interesting to me because they used mathematics to base the value of a player rather than what scouts thought of

them. The Red Sox adopted this philosophy the next year and won two World Series, their first since they dealt Babe Ruth to the Yankees (1918).

Friday January 20, 2012

When Sherri weighed in this morning, we found she had lost 5 lb. since yesterday morning. I was concerned that maybe she lost a lot of potassium with that much fluid. So I called up her nurse in Pittsburgh. She sent the visiting nurses to draw blood in the middle of the afternoon. By 5 pm, Allegheny General called and said that her potassium and sodium were way too low. We were to go to the ER, get assessed there and then decide if we wanted Sherri to be admitted in Clarion or transported to Pittsburgh. After 1½ at the ER, the new set of blood work came back showing everything was normal, meaning she had just had a bad test. So we got home around 8 pm

By 8:30 pm my stomach began to feel a little upset. This was the beginning of misery. I threw up over and over finally getting to sleep by midnight. Later I would be much better. I don't know if it was a bug, bad food, or a new medicine that I just went on Thursday.

Wednesday January 18, 2012

Sherri and I have a couple new TV shows that we have come to really like: "Last Man Standing" with Tim Allen and the other is "A Gifted Man."

Tuesday January 17, 2012

David is almost done with his training. He will train on Wednesday and Thursday and then join his shift on Friday. That means on Thursday he will be done at 3:30 pm and then his Friday shift begins at midnight Friday morning. So, it looks like a couple hours of sleep on Thursday evening will be the best case scenario. After they found out his background, they decided he will be targeted for maintenance rather than doing the grunt work that he had expected.

Monday January 16, 2012

Our school assisted Bradford in hosting the district 10 USA Skills competitions. There were several contests going on throughout the building with students coming as far away as Erie. We did really well, having 4 first place winners. I haven't heard from our students who went to Bradford, Butler, and Erie to compete.

Sunday January 15, 2012

The pastor had a good sermon today. He pointed out in Matthew 24 and 25 that people are not wise to wonder when Jesus will return. Jesus told his own disciples that was not for them to know but that they needed to be concerned about being ready as well as to be prepared to give an account of how they served Him.

After church and after eating lunch out, Sherri and I did little the rest of the day other than catch up on some shows and watch part of the football games.

Saturday January 14, 2012

Scott stopped in just before noon. He was returning some storage containers. He also brought a pumpkin pie he had made. It was excellent! Sherri and I were impressed with how well Scott looks after going through all those treatments. He looks to us like he's all fixed up and ready for another 30 years or so.

Jared, Missy, Hannah, and Brody came over for supper - pot roast.

Friday January 13, 2012

Clarion Area delayed today while C-L and North Clarion canceled for the day. Today looked and felt like winter.

I need to break this crazy cycle I have been following. I have been going to bed around 6:30 pm and then getting up at 2:30 am.

Thursday January 12, 2012

I took Sherri to her appointment in Pittsburgh with Dr. Benza. Everything looked good. On the way back, we stopped at Kelly O's. It is a diner on route 19 that was featured on Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives. They are known for the Haluski, which Sherri got.

Wednesday January 11, 2012

Becky Brooks' dad died late this afternoon. She and her sister, Mary, were with him down in Florida at the time he passed away. I think his funeral is Monday.

David called and said things are going well at his new job. He is in orientation this week. He works Monday through Friday, 8 hours per day, for

the first two weeks. He said he will probably gain 10 pounds because they have a feast for the new trainees everyday.

Tuesday January 10, 2012

Sherri got an x-ray on her arm where it was broken. Everything looked fine and so did her blood work. We go to Pittsburgh on Thursday to see Dr. Benza. We caught up on a couple of shows (Last Man Standing and The Gifted Man) while we ate Harry's Pizza. for supper.

Monday January 9, 2012

Lue and Danny came by in the evening. Danny wanted to show me how his two Zords (Power Rangers) could be quickly assembled into one.

Sunday January 8, 2012

I got home from the Elders' meeting with an hour to spare before the Steelers' game started. I had a bad feeling going into this game. Everyone was pretty confident and I kept looking at Pittsburgh's injuries and the fact they were on the road. Anyway, even if they pulled this out, I don't think they were going to win at New England on 6 days rest.

Saturday January 7, 2012

Janna's mother is sick so Janna decided not to take the girls back as David made his move. David rented a U-haul and packed a bunch of things and left around midday (I think). He has rented a storage area in Washington, Pa.

I spent the afternoon getting food ready for our Elder meeting on Sunday.

In the evening, Dude, Linda, Alisha, Craig, Twila, Jared, Missy, Rick, Drew, Sherri, and I went to the Gold Eagle in Brookville to celebrate Twila's 75th birthday.

Friday January 6, 2012

Today David was moving from his home, across the bottom of the state to Waynesburg, PA. I would imagine it has to be a tough thing to do. For an uncertain period of time, he will be separated from his wife and two daughters. Janna will have to juggle her work, her kids, selling a house, and taking care of everything. My prayer is that their house sells quickly and they will all be together very soon. They are spending the weekend at Janna's parents. David begins his new job on Monday, while Janna and the

kids return home Sunday afternoon.

Thursday January 5, 2012

Sherri had a doctor appointment. Afterwards, we went to Eat-n-Park for supper. And, that is the highlights of our day. I always appreciate uneventful days.

Wednesday January 4, 2012

Twila turned 75 today.

It was a very cold morning with temperatures below zero.

It must have been some kind of crazy night at the Clarion Borough council meeting. Dude is the president. After a 3-2 vote to discontinue Nancy Freenock's contract as the Borough manager, Jason Noto and Brenda DeDe immediately resigned. Since that left only three members at the meeting, they could do no further business on this night. It seems their attorney also left the meeting in support of Freenock.

Tuesday January 3, 2012

Schools were delayed today. Three of the 7 Clarion County schools closed for the day. If 4 are closed, then we are too. Instead, we did not lose today.

Monday January 2, 2012

Back to school today. I would like to say that I was more than ready to get back at it; but I wasn't. I never did get in the swing of things all day. The snow started to fall during the day but we didn't get that much - just a coating by evening.

Jared and Missy's vehicle is not totaled. It will cost over \$17,000 to fix it and over a month of time. Jared was to get a rental car today but I didn't hear if did or not.

Sunday January 1, 2012

Since the first of the year fell on a Sunday, we of course had Sunday School and Church. I taught today. Before I left in the morning, I put on a roaster of pork, sauerkraut, kielbasa, and hot dogs. I also made mashed potatoes. Twila, Jared, Missy, Hannah, and Brody came for supper. Twila brought cornbread..

We learned late tonight that the Steelers will play at Denver next Sunday at 4:30. That works out great for me. The family is taking Twila out Saturday evening to celebrate her 75th birthday and then I have an Elder's meeting Sunday afternoon.