



Bringing the good news of Jesus Christ to nursing

Please pray for

- Refreshment in God's Word and wisdom in decision making for NCF Director Pat Emery and all NCF staff as we meet in Chicago May 1-4.

- God to meet students / nurses at:
April 5 - Cleveland brunch "Spiritual Care of Patients" (rescheduled from March 8 due to snow storm).

April 12 - Greater Canton seminar "Vigilance: Mandate for Nursing Excellence" with Kathleen Geib, DNS

April 19 - Ohio NCF Leadership team spring planning meeting

May 15 - Greater Canton 2008-09 planning meeting

- Planning for NCF ministry that will attract and influence younger nurses.
- Implementation of NCF mentoring ministry starting with staff training in July, 2008.
- Strong prayer support
- Adequate financial support. to meet ministry expenses
- Continued spiritual growth for me to become the NCF staff (and the woman) God has called me to be to share His love and grace with students and nurses.
- Praise for opportunity to experience God's comfort and provision during 8 wks of healing of my foot

*Gifts for the ministry of Fran McHolm can be sent to: Nurses Christian Fellowship
P.O. Box 7895, Madison, WI 53707-7895
or go to: <http://www.ncf-jcn.org/donate.html>*

*... I am not ashamed of the gospel,
because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes...
Rom 1:16 NIV*

Our NCF mission is to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to nursing education and practice. Sharing the Good News includes helping patients and coworkers to reflect on their relationship with God, sharing our own faith as appropriate, and relating to others in a manner that demonstrates God's love. The responsibility for doing this lies not only with NCF staff, but with each nursing student, nurse educator, administrator, staff nurse, etc. Even though we may know that we should be doing this, sometimes the pressures of time and negative attitudes of coworkers toward spiritual care may cause us to hang back.

One way to overcome this hesitancy is to read the book **90 Minutes in Heaven** and its sequel **Heaven is for Real** by Donald Piper. A long time friend of NCF recently urged me to read this story by asserting "Every nurse should read this story - especially every Christian nurse." Piper, a pastor, shares how he died in a car accident, experienced the wonder and beauty of heaven, and then found himself severely injured in the wrecked car with a man who was praying for him. The first book traces the miracle of his survival, his journey of recovery through multiple surgeries and medical devices, and the accompanying depression, loss of purpose, and sense of disconnection with God. The second book reports how God has worked in his life through this experience, and how God has used his testimony to encourage others in difficult situations.

After reading Piper's experience my belief in the reality of heaven, my confidence in the power of prayer, and my faith to share my Christian beliefs every day have been strengthened. This story not only gives nurses a vivid glimpse of the spiritual needs of those who are struggling with long term disability and pain, but it has the potential to increase conviction and consistency in sharing the truth of the Gospel with coworkers and patients.

A season of sitting ...

The highlight of this season was attending the packed out Texas NCF retreat at Round Top. Texan nurses are genuinely warm and excited about bringing Jesus to their practice. Tom and I also had a short visit with our daughter Krista and her family who now live in College Station, TX.

On February 4, right after the retreat, I stepped on a small toy man from the wooden railroad set! The result was a spiral fracture of my right foot - 5th metatarsal. There have been some struggles during the 8 weeks of recovery (so far!) but God has been good, as always. I am grateful for your prayers, encouragement, and meals - as well as for Tom's good care.

The biggest challenge has been no weight bearing and no driving. This has resulted in cancelling some appointments and doing NCF ministry via phone, computer, and email. Two fruitful projects have been working with Ruth Snapp and Jane Hall to review / update our NCF Continuing Education policies and preparing for the April 5 Cleveland brunch. A pleasant outcome has been more time for waiting on the Lord, reading, and Bible study. Today I was released for partial weight bearing but need to wait a few more weeks for physical therapy. I am ready to be done with this but I know God has been with me all the way.

From my heart I thank you for your faithful prayers and generous support of this ministry. I am praying for you for a fruitful and blessed Spring and for conviction and courage in sharing the Good News wherever you are!

Fran



With Texas NCF volunteers, Jane Hall and Pat Emery at Round Top retreat. They made Pat and I honorary Texans!



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