

May 13, 2010

Dear Friend,

Life is busy and I'm enjoying every minute of it, and so it's time for an update. NCF is in another transition and so my role in the office continues to change. I keep trying to stay on top of stuff and of course website and database management (my two major roles) both make the job a bit easier as well as make it more complex.

The NCF website will be moving to a new platform (a Drupal content management system) in the near future – this summer is the projected date. I have finished getting the current website into code that should move relatively smoothly to the new platform. I still need to finish cleaning out the old pages and then of course learn how to code in Drupal. There will be a significant learning curve but mostly I'm looking forward to this project.

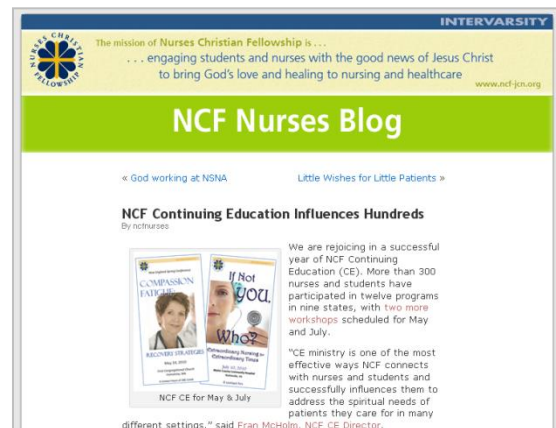
We are exploring several good ideas for the NCF database – especially managing NCF member data. Either of these options will mean I need to do some significant clean-up and redesign to the current data collection, storage and structure.



Recently I've worked on several very fun projects that are having an impact on the ministry now as well as helping us move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Check out the NCF FaceBook fan page I set up at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-WI/NCF-Nurses-Christian-Fellowship/338446020136>. I also created the NCF Nurses Blog at <http://ncfnurses.wordpress.com/>. Both of these are opportunities to get information about NCF ministry available to people online and both have places where people can

comment and interact. We continue to correspond via email and snail mail. For years we have heard “. . . just learned about NCF and all of the wonderful resources – why didn't I hear about you before?” Well, I can tell you it is a challenge to get information about NCF's ministry out to ALL nurses and nursing students. We do rejoice as we see our circle of influence expand.

Another of my new roles is to work more closely with NCF finances and budgets. I'm certain you understand how expensive it can be to do the ministry of NCF. All of us in the NCF office and the NCF leadership are frugal and careful with our stewardship of the money entrusted to us to do this ministry, but we continue to have needs. I'm sending this letter to folks who give regularly to my support – who I don't thank often enough, but I do often thank God for you and your financial support – as well as to folks who haven't given to my NCF ministry, but who might like to know more, just ask 😊.





Sierra (15), Zana (soon to be 13) and I continue to do well and enjoy living together.

Sierra joined the Stoughton Fencing Club this year and is enjoying that sport. Zana is having fun tumbling – she will be in the Syttende Mai parade with the tumblers on Saturday turning cartwheels down Main Street.

All three of us are busy at church. I work there as a musician, directing handbell choirs, children’s choir, accompanying the adult choir and playing organ and piano for worship monthly. Both Sierra and Zana are involved with the youth group. Zana will be attending church camp this summer in July. Sierra decided to go to band camp at UW Whitewater with her trombone.



Robin and Ron live in Stoughton – not too far from us and so we see them regularly. On Mother’s Day I was treated when Robin brought lunch. Annina, Sean, Jackson (soon to be 4) and Clare (2) live in Janesville and who I see often. Joe lives between Stoughton and Janesville and so we get time together also. Joe’s son, Theo, lives in Stoughton and I get time with him occasionally. I’m grateful that my dad and his wife live in Stoughton so it is easy to stay in touch.

Plans this summer may include a trip to Anchorage, Alaska. Bob’s aunt Jean lives there and her husband died on Good Friday so we have been talking about and doing some of the planning to get her moved closer. I also hope to get more gardening done this year. Seems every year I make a bit more progress. I keep adding perennials - the hepatica; tulips and my shooting star plant were especially beautiful this spring.

All for now,  
Linda

