

# GREETINGS FROM GREENVINE



Jack wanted me to write a newsletter when we got back from our WONDERFUL vacation! Well, jumping back into work, and life as usual, made it kinda tough. After the events of this weekend, fracturing my wrist, surgery, it looks like I'm going to have time to do this. Might take awhile. Typing with one hand is going slow!

First of all, THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS!

We continue to give thanks to our Lord for each one of you every time we remember you! And once again, we thank you all for making our vacation possible!

I don't journal much, but I decided to do just that on our road trip! And what a road trip it was! 3,424.2 miles!

After visiting Ben and Christie and kids in McKinney for the weekend, our first stop was an extinct volcano in New Mexico, Capulin. I was there when I was about 9 years old. We stopped and hiked the rim of the crater, about 1.5 miles. There's a point where you can see 4 states! NM, TX, OK, and CO! Breath-taking view all the way around! Jack was talking to some guys from College Station as I hiked. One of them had the audacity to call me "Feisty!" I found myself smiling, singing, and worshipping our Creator God as I hiked. My anthem for most of the trip was a song by Third Day: GOD OF WONDERS!

Lord of all creation; of water, earth, and sky  
The heavens are Your tabernacle,  
Glory to the Lord on high!

God of Wonders beyond our galaxy  
You are holy, holy!  
The universe declares Your majesty!  
You are holy, holy!  
Lord of Heaven and Earth!

In Colorado Springs we visited Pike's Peak, and Garden of the Gods. The whole time I thought "There is only One God! You are GOD alone!" Another one of my songs! Jack let me play on the rocks, and climb around! I laughed a lot, just like a kid! I cried tears of wonder and awe as I enjoyed this part of creation that I had only seen on TV! I was there!

In Big Sky, Montana, we hiked Bee Hive Basin Trail, 1.75 miles and 1,700 feet altitude climb! Jack made it about halfway, but his feet and knees prevented him from going on. I got to the trail's end, the lake, but saw more trail, so kept going! Always pushing myself! As I climbed those rocks, got to the top, the wind picked up and blew so hard I had to lie down to take pictures, and wait till it subsided to climb down. Ok, so maybe I am Feisty!

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During the hike, I was enamored by the majesty and magnificence of the mountains, but also by the intricate details of all the individual rocks. The colors, the sparkling, the stripes, the beauty, of every individual rock that I saw made me giddy with joy. I worshiped the God of creation and wondered how anyone could think that this just “happened”. Our God pays such close attention to every detail! So many rocks caught my eye. I ended up picking up and carrying down the mountain probably 10 pounds extra of rocks in my backpack. (Who does that?) I collected rocks from every mountain that we were on. Each mountain had different colors, different designs in it’s rocks. There were differences in the density, porosity, colors, some rounded, some jagged. Blacks, pinks, browns, reds, oranges, whites. Some sparkled in the light of the sun, some didn’t. So many colors, such detail! Such beauty!

Another song broke out in my mind. “Oh Lord our Lord how majestic is your name in all the earth!” Then I sang

“You are God alone, from before time began!  
You are on Your Throne! You are God alone!”

I don’t know if anyone heard me singing as I walked that trail, but if they did, they heard about my God and Creator, and Savior! I think the singing helped me to keep going on that 4.5 hour hike. It also helped me to not think of the bears that might be watching me! I saw several tufts of black fur, and brought home a stick with black bear fur entwined about it. I really wanted to see a bear on our trip, but actually started to give thanks that I didn’t see one!

We watched prong horned antelope graze in pastures, saw mountain goats on Pike’s Peak, saw up close huge Bison, with snow falling on them! Saw chipmunks, and prairie dogs. Mule deer were in the woods behind the condo, and came out to graze right next to the buildings! Watched elk grazing in Yellowstone, and even saw a bull moose jump up on the road in Idaho! (The only time I didn’t have my camera ready!)

In Yellowstone, we enjoyed the thermal areas, geysers, and pools. Again, the detail! Some were just mud, some very clear, some in the open, some in caves. One in particular had the most beautiful blues and greens! Kathleen, our chauffeur told us that this one was extremely dangerous due to it’s acidity. Reminds me that we can be tempted by seemingly beautiful things, that are actually very dangerous, or even deadly! We must always seek the TRUTH!

During our float down the river in Jackson, Wyoming, Jack and I thought about Rick and Linda Fogle. They told us that was one of the most enjoyable things they did up there! I cried when I thought of our buddy, Rick. I miss him. But his smile was in my mind as I enjoyed the Tetons, the bald eagles, and the beautiful river rocks. And, yes, I got one of those for my collection! When we got to the end of that 10 mile float, our van driver said that a big grizzly bear had come through there just a few hours earlier. I was ok that I missed that!

As I think about the flat, swamp lands of southern Louisiana; the hills and deserts of Texas; the mountains in Colorado, Montana, Wyoming; the flat potato fields of neighboring Idaho, and all the different terrains just in the US, I’m amazed! We saw sparrows, pigeons, doves,

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ravens, hawks, bald eagles, and even a golden eagle! Such beautiful creatures! And all the rocks!

I'm so thankful to be able to call Him "My Lord, my God, my Savior, my Creator", and so much more!

Holy, holy, holy Father!  
Holy, holy, holy Son!  
Holy, holy, holy Spirit!

Maybe that's why it's really said 9 times, not just 3!

As I consider the works of Your hands, Lord God Almighty, I stand in awe of Who You are, and I'm so humbled and thankful that You have loved us with an everlasting love!

YOU ARE GOD ALONE!!!

"His divine power has given all we need for a godly life through our knowledge of Him Who called us by His own glory and goodness!  
Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires."  
2 Peter 1:3-4

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you all with Hope!

Love to each of you!

Karen (and Jack)



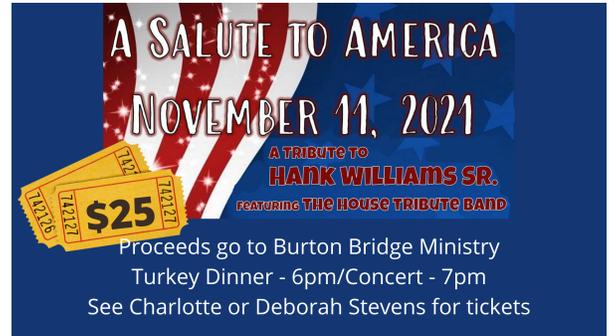
View From our Balcony



View From the top of Bee Hive Basin trail

## Announcements

- Wednesday Night Bible Study -Wednesday nights @ 6pm
- Serve Burton Bridge meal and provide desserts - Friday October 22
- Greater Things Gala - Friday October 22, 2021 benefiting Adult and Teen Challenge
- Greenvine's Girls of Grace Workday - Preparing art project for retreat - Saturday Oct 23, @ 9:30am
- Chain of Love - Morning Worship - October 24
- Men's Prayer Breakfast - Wednesday October 27, @ 7am



## Prayer Requests

Jack and Karen's Nephew - Pray that he will listen to the Doctors and to his mother

Karen - Continued healing on her wrist

Charlotte Avera - Continued healing

Brayden Lopez - Mental and Spiritual health

Debbie Reed - Recovery on her wrist

Cliff reed -Recovering from Back Surgery - Please pray his pain subsides

Patty's cousin-in-law, Kevin Tepera passed away this week. Please keep his wife a children in your prayers

Brittany's mother Tracy is in ICU - Please pray that her oxygen levels will stabilize and she will continue to improve

Neal Lampe has come home. Please pray for continued healing

Please remember Linda Fogle and her family in the loss of Rick

Carolyn Cox - Continues to have extreme pain in her back

Geri Smart's daughter as she continues to battle cancer

Denny's Sister is in need of a Kidney Transplant

Becky's granddaughter Taylor who has Cystic Fibrosis and is having health issues

Oran Lambright, Jack and Karen's friend is in ICU continuing to improve

Ray and Bev Morris - Bev and been diagnosed with Alzheimers

Sandra Carson's daughter Candace is having some mental health issues

Bob & Sadie Easley - Health issues

Ed Ehring's sister Julie Robison is suffering from Alzheimer's.

Vicky Hoffman - legally blind but her eyes are getting worse

Prayers for those working in health related jobs, for protection. Especially those from our own families:<sup>4</sup>  
Karen at St Joseph - Susan - State School - Zella Johnson