

From Mark and Debbie Blosser



Speaking Hope to the World

August 2021

A lot has been happening in our lives this last month regarding taking care of my mother, Helen. Debbie and I have taken on most of her care since coming back from eSwatini (Swaziland), and over these last eight years it has been fun and a privilege at the same time doing her shopping and accounts and spending time with her. Mom is now turning 98 and still has a remarkable memory for her age. However, we have also watched some decline taking place. For the last year and a half Mom has been asking me about moving into the health-care facilities at Greencroft. At first, I tried to discourage her, as she seemed to be doing well where she was. But then I decided to accept her request and start the process. I went a ways down that road and expected the move would take place. However, near the end of the process, I questioned the person I was working with and said I had to be confident my mother would qualify for Medicaid once her money ran out, as health care is very expensive! To answer this question, an assessment was made, and we discovered that, sure enough, she did not qualify! Then COVID-19 hit, and it became evident that this was something the Lord worked out for us. Staying in independent living allowed her to continue receiving visits from us, while people in the health-care facilities became completely isolated. Perhaps some died from lack of human interaction.

Now that COVID-19 has subsided, my mother made the request again. This time we did the assessment first, and she qualified. A room became available on June 14<sup>th</sup>, and all my siblings and their spouses banded together, and we made the move on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Dan and Rose Ellen drove up from Georgia, and Ruthann came up from Indianapolis. Ruthann did the major part of working with Mom in deciding what to take and then settled her in her new room, while we guys did the heavy lifting. I was the point man in making sure all the processes were followed. But I still have the final financial things to complete. Your



prayers that all those details will happen smoothly would be appreciated. A second prayer request would be that Mom would adapt well to her new surroundings. Change is difficult for all of us, so you can imagine what it is like for someone her age! The first week or two were difficult for her, but we think it is becoming easier with time. The facility she is in is beautiful! One could not ask to have a better situation. She has her own private room/bath and can keep some of the furniture and things that make it feel like home. I was able to set her up with new hearing aids that allow her direct Bluetooth access to her phone and Zoom calls. Some of the nurses were amazed at the technology that came with this new health-care resident! She can answer and hang up the phone by merely pushing a button on her hearing aid. I believe being tuned in to what is happening around her is improving her quality of life and slowing her decline.



Debbie and I also witnessed the wedding of a couple whose romance we were unknowingly instrumental in helping start. We introduced Liz to TWR's internship program, and this is where she met Jesse. The rest is history. They were married on June 12<sup>th</sup> in a beautiful wedding ceremony. You may remember reading about Liz in one of our previous letters.

Our last prayer concern is in connection with the unrest in eSwatini (Swaziland) and South Africa. Major rioting has taken place in both countries, causing shortages of food, fuel, and danger in traveling. So far, our broadcasts have continued without difficulty, and a co-worker was able to enter eSwatini to help with transmitter problems. Because of the unrest, he and others stayed at our transmitter site for several days, as travel on the roads was too dangerous. We wait to hear if he can travel back to his home country. My concern is that if major changes take place in the country, the Lord will protect our future broadcast ability.

Debbie and I appreciate all the support and prayers you have given us over the years. People in many parts of our world have come to know Jesus as Lord because of the outreach of TWR, and part of that is a result of your efforts through us.

*Mark & Debbie*

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