Smiths @ The Springs

Serving Through the Pain

Thanks to the prayers and physical therapy, Nancy was able to realize her goal to have enough healing in her foot to be able to take a walk by June 1st, our anniversary. Not long after that, she had a nagging lower back ache that lasted all summer. In August, after returning from church, she nearly collapsed due to a sharp pain in her hip and leg. Since that time we have been attempting to treat the pain while trying to figure out the extent of her dysfunction. She had **a second MRI** that hopefully will provide some answers. Surgery is being discussed. In the meantime, we continue to make beds, clean cabins, and do many loads of laundry. Thanks to everyone who has pitched in to help bear the "load" on Nancy's back. We can't wait to put her back pain behind her!

"Jerry & Nancy, Thank you for so lovingly embracing and serving me during my visit 2 weeks ago. Throughout my life, it has been quite elusive for me to feel and experience God's love. Due to the remarkable space you have stewarded, God demonstrated His love to me in a quite powerful way. The Springs has become one of those handful of spiritual spaces in the world where I truly and tangibly experience God's presence"

Guest from Evanston, IL

What's New @ The Springs?

How can the building of **a garage at the Staff House** benefit the long-tern needs of The Springs? I had to ask this question when contemplating my desire to have a place to park my vehicle out of the weather, and have a place to store our belongings. The truth is, simply removing 1 car from the parking area has already given space for a guest to park near their cabin. Also, I was able to quickly repair a floor lamp in the shop area of the garage. For the sake of the future Operation Managers, I am glad to have provided them with this quality space. Also, a generous donor and many volunteers felt the same, so the project was completed without any impact on the operation budget. Thanks to all who had a part in this venture!

Family Matters

In September, we traveled to Oregon to be with my (Jerry's) family. We took time visiting significant places which marked my spiritual pilgrimage. One of those places was the Evans Valley Bible Church where I gave my life to Christ at 4 years old with the help of my Aunt Margret who prayed a simple prayer with me. While we were in Oregon, we attended her **memorial celebration** along with all my Smith family relatives.

Cousins together at the Memorial Celebration

The next day, I officiated the **funeral service** of a close childhood friend who took his own life in August. God was present there in all that was done to remember him, and I gave a challenge to have faith, hope, and love in the aftermath of this grievous event in our lives.

The next event in our lives is the celebration of our son, **Nathan's and Natalie's wedding** coming on December 15, 2018! The rehearsal dinner location is reserved; Nancy's dress is beautiful. Nathan and Natalie have rented a duplex in Grand Rapids where Natalie will live until they are married.

Prayers are Powerful

- ✝ Praise – God is using us both at The Springs and in our local Community Church
- ✝ Praise – For the generous donors who provided the garage and a new golf cart
- ✝ Praise – Summer guests who gave gifts of support
- ✝ Pray for lasting relief of Nancy's spinal dysfunction, pain, and associated stress
- ✝ Pray for wedding plans and the couples future together
- ✝ Pray for a new season of leading a Community Group Bible study

Jerry & Nancy Smith

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If you would like to become a ministry partner, you can use this link:
http://www.thespringsindiana.org/support.html or send a check to The Springs for Staff support.

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice Hospitality. Romans 12:12-13