



From the desk of

Missionary
Gary Weidenbach
MacTrips Coordinator

working with



April 2018

Greetings to all in the Lord,

We can not say that there is not always something exciting happening here at the Weidenbach household. This last month was no exception.

The first of February Pam and I attended the Mt. Pleasant, Nevils Chapel Faith Promise Conference. We always enjoy this conference. While there I took the opportunity to travel to Arkansas to the Arkansas Heart Institute for some tests, which was a follow up to some heart testing I have been having done since last October. This testing was at the urgency of a very good doctor friend of ours who lives in Arkansas.

Back home, with the results from the tests conducted in Arkansas, my cardiologist scheduled me for an Angiogram for March 8th. During the Angiogram they found some significant blockage, 90% in one artery, and determined I was a good candidate for Heart Bypass Surgery, which was scheduled for March 19th.

My surgery time was scheduled for 1pm on March 19th with a 10am show up time. We received a call at 6am from the hospital asking us to come in by 8am if at possible as they wanted to move my surgery up to 11am. So we rushed around and made it to the hospital a little after 8am, but did not go back into surgery till 12:30pm, oh well! Guess that is what ones does at a hospital, wait.

The surgery was triple - bypass and lasted a little over 5 hours, or so I am told. Two days in ICU and 3 days in the main hospital. Recovery while in the hospital is not easy with lots of doctor visits, walking, physical therapy, and learning how to heal properly. The pain management was well handled by the hospital staff and the food, was not too bad. The first couple of days are the hardest with many different tubes hanging from you as you try and maneuver around during the day. As the tubes come out it gets easier. Once the chest tubes came out the comfort level increased significantly. While in the hospital, we were able to share our faith with a great many of the staff and patients. Meeting several believers going through the same surgery. Fellowship time with these individuals was amazing.

They released me on Saturday March 24th. The total recover time is 6-8 for the chest to completely heal. No driving for 4 weeks and no lifting anything over 5 pounds for 6 weeks. The recovery is a bit longer than I had hoped, but am trying to be a good patient as I do not want to break anything back open. Pam is a great care giver and makes sure I stay on course with my healing process.

We are praying that we have completed our health "testing," at least for now. Pam having gone through cancer and now me through bypass surgery. Please pray for us as we heal. The Lord willing I will be back on my travel schedule in June. But we have very much learned, that this life belongs to the Lord and he will do with it as He sees fit. Praise the Lord! This journey all started in October 2017 with some borderline heart tests. Pam and I have a very good doctor friend, Dr. Mark, who has urged me all along this process to push for more testing and to ask the proper questions. Because of Dr. Mark I feel I was able to move this process along when my cardiologist wanted to take a wait and see approach to my heart care. (BTW: I have a new Cardiologist now). Thank You to Dr. Mark for all his effort and care toward me and my family. He truly is a dear friend.

Hope to see you on the field,
Gary Weidenbach

Points Of Interest

2018 Schedule

MacTrips

Peru
July/Aug 2018

MacMed

Honduras
September 2018

Macedonian Missionary Service

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