



Happy Thanksgiving!



*Much like the Apostle Paul expressed in his letter
to his loved ones in Philippi.....
Cheryl and I give great thanks to God for you!*

*Every time you cross our minds,
we break out in exclamations of thanks to God.
Each exclamation is a trigger to prayer.
We find ourselves praying for you with glad hearts.
We are so pleased that you have continued on in this with us,
believing and proclaiming God's Message,
from the day you heard it right up to the present.
There has never been the slightest doubt in our minds that
the God who started this great work in you
would keep at it and bring it to a flourishing finish
on the very day Christ Jesus appears.*

Adapted from..... Philippians 1:3-6 The Message Bible

Hello from **very snowy** Ft. Collins, Colorado! While we are waiting for Kiley, Kathryn and Caleb to arrive home from their early Thanksgiving trip to Grandma's in Norton, KS and for Conor to finish his shift at Embassy Suites we wanted to make good use of a few quiet hours to send you our greetings and love. All four of our early "twenty-somethings" live here now, the girls attending Colorado State University and the boys finding their way in the working world..... so Cheryl and I traveled 300 miles from the opposite direction late Tuesday night to be with them. After we both finished a day of teaching at Delta Middle School (Cheryl in her job with special needs kids and me subbing) we headed out into the night bringing in tow with us a Home-Smoked Wild Turkey (Yum!) and all the trimmings for our Thanksgiving feast. Just moments ago we stepped outside with Sadie and Gracie to "selfie" the photo you see above. We are pinching ourselves in awe.... feeling like we've stepped into a winter wonderland and so look forward to capturing an outdoor family Christmas Card photo tonight. It's cold and the snow seems destined to stick around for the next few days.

pause.....

I just picked up the phone.

It's Kiley.... "Don't worry..... everyone is OK" she says.... the road is a sheet of ice.....

"Caleb got bumped up" Cousin Matthew's car slid off the road and rolled 3 times.....we watched it all happen in front of us from our car. Matthew is OK Caleb seems fine.....bleeding a little from his head.... but he is fine.

The ambulance is here. I'll call back after Caleb gets checked out and give you an update.

We pray..... "God, thank you.....even for this accident, your presence, protection, mercies and whatever is about to unfold in the hours ahead. We are trusting you in all of this, and remembering to receive it all with thankful hearts."

And so..... now I share this with Cheryl..... and..... we wait..... and are waiting.....praying and committed to trusting our good, good God.....with thankful hearts.

And now.....the kids and cousins report in. Caleb checked out all good (Thank You God!), they are picking up scattered belongings strewn in a field next to the road, Matthew is going over things with the police, tow truck is on its way to haul off the rolled over wreck and they all are cautiously eager to get back on the road to **s l o w l y** proceed on west.

So....we wait and will pass the afternoon with thankful hearts hoping for their safe arrival....even later tonight than anticipated when they set out on the road this morning.

That family Christmas photo and Thanksgiving Feast we anticipate tonight has just become infinitely more meaningful for all of us and great cause for thankful celebration.

I had no idea I'd be sharing like this in a quick Thanksgiving greeting!

But it seems to be a perfect situation/circumstance for us to remind you, saying it loud and clear.....

- We love you very much!
- We treasure your love, encouragement, friendship, prayers and ministry support.
- God has us all in his watchful love and care.....no matter what we are facing today!
- We have so much to be thankful for...every day and in every circumstance and you are high on our list!
- God has purpose in everything! And for all of us in Christ, our eternal home and hope is certain, our lives matter now as we trust God in all circumstances and joyfully help others see Christ in us so they can get in on the abundant, thankful life in Christ too!

"Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

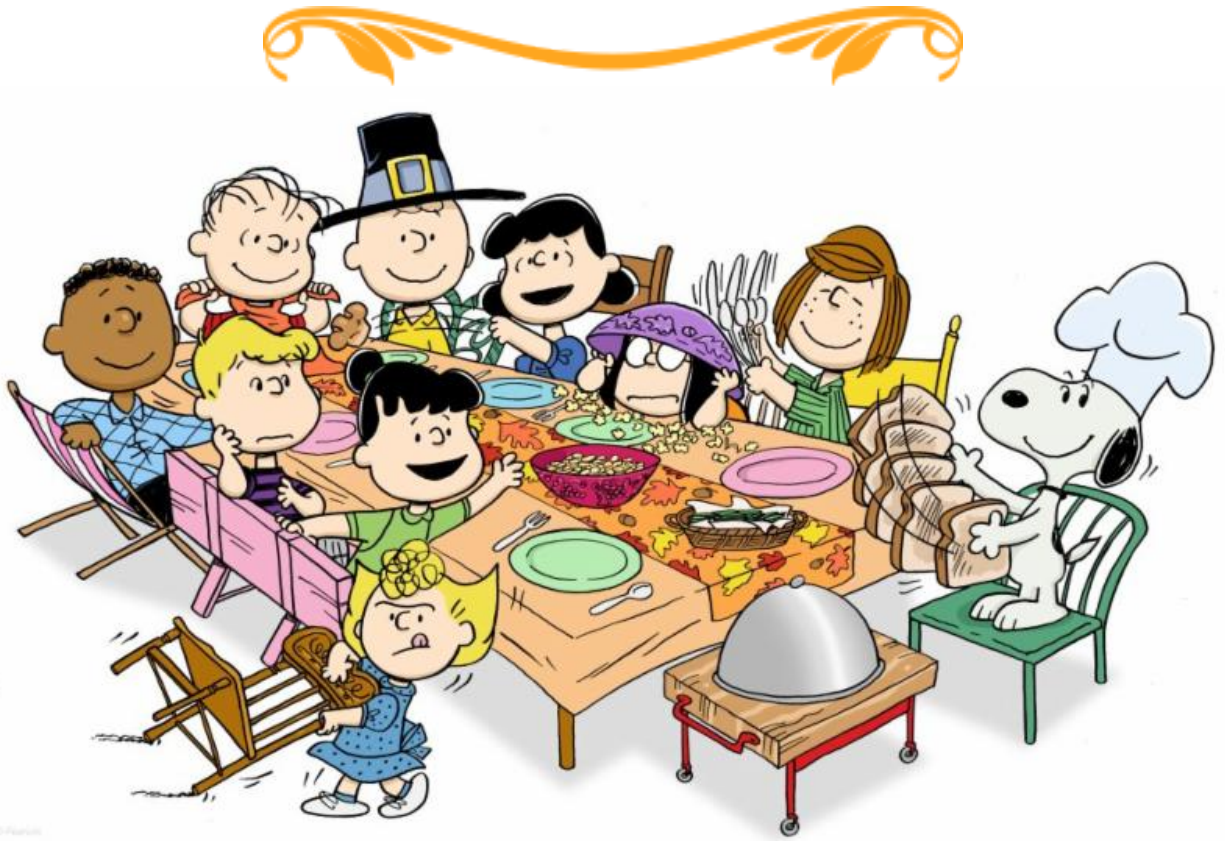
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV

May you enjoy a most Blessed Thanksgiving today!

**I will update you in all this in a
ministry newsletter very soon.....stay tuned!**

Call or Text me if you want to visit on any of this! BLESSINGS!!

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