

May 2023

## Cancer Becomes Personal

*Diana, we need to discuss your test results.*" Many have received similar calls from their physician's office, but this was a first for us. Diana has had a rash that's been spreading over her body. Her dermatologist ordered a biopsy. And when she got that call, we suspected it was serious.

**Unexpected News** A few days later, she was told she has cutaneous t-cell lymphoma—mycosis fungoides. At that moment due to prior commitments, I (Bob) was flying to Cincinnati to speak at the Christian Community Health Fellowship national meeting. Diana shared the news as I was changing planes in Chicago.

Concern. Dread. Confusion. Apprehension. All these crashed my thoughts and emotions. God gave Diana instantaneous peace and assurance her life is in His hands. Several Psalms spoke to her...

***Behold, God is my helper; the Lord is the upholder of my life. (Psalm 54:4)***

**Hope Arrives** With limited understanding and information, internet searches can be more frightening than helpful. So we prayed and waited for 3 weeks. Diana was referred to City of Hope—a nationally ranked cancer center 55 miles from our home. She was blessed to see Jasmine Zane, MD and Christiane Querfeld, MD—both prominent physicians in the treatment of this rare cancer.

While we are incredibly grateful Diana is blessed with this world class team and facility, God reminded her that her hope is not in City of Hope. It's in the creator God of the universe. We are trusting His plan *and* praying that He will bring complete healing. We'd be grateful for your prayers as well.

Additional tests at City of Hope found the cancer is limited to the upper layers of her skin. They staged her at 1B and proposed a treatment plan: daily applications of a topical steroid plus narrow band phototherapy 3 times weekly (which is done at a clinic only minutes from Redlands). Though this is not a curable cancer, it is manageable. Her doctors seem confident that after 2-12 months of treatment, she'll be in remission and then only require monitoring. They assured us the treatment will not be debilitating nor will it affect her stamina and activities.



Diana with Grandkids last weekend

**Life Continues** Apart from the frequent phototherapy treatments, life seems somewhat normal now. In June, students from across the US will arrive in Redlands for the 22nd annual Whole Person Care Preceptorship. We anticipate Diana being fully engaged. Praise God for providing all the needed leaders. And we're trusting God to make lifelong impact in lives of the students, those patients they meet this summer and the millions of patients they'll see over their careers. Pray they can share Jesus who is wonderfully sustaining us in our own new and unexpected journey.

*Bob & Diana*

### Upcoming Events **JOIN US!!!**

June 18-July 15, 2023 Whole Person Care Preceptorship  
October 6-7, 2023 Tulsa METS Whole Person Care Conference  
Nov. 3-4, 2023 Chicago METS Whole Person Care Conference  
Nov. 9-11, 2023 Speak at Global Missions Health Conference



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