



News from the Blue Ridge



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Claire & Lorin Cranford
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Family Events:

Subsequent health report: The month of July has been a month of testing and experimentation with different blood pressure medicines. The four tests completed so far have eliminated over 98% of traditional causes of high blood pressure, all the way from no serious problem with the heart muscle, arteries, kidneys, or glands. The cardiologist has concluded that it can best be labeled essential hypertension, which I think is medical terminology for 'we don't know what is causing it.' The good news out of this is that my heart muscle is okay and there is no clogging of the arteries. And the blood pressure has been brought under control.



The greatest challenge has been to find the right medicine that controls the high blood pressure but doesn't produce the excessive side effects. The first four drugs -- Altace 2.5mg, Altace 5 mg, Lotrel, and Lotensin -- haven't worked, so at the end of July the doctor switched me over to Labetalol 100 mg. This is an entirely different class of drugs. I'm hopeful that this will do the trick.



But now another challenge has surfaced: my neurologist has uncovered nerve deterioration in my hands and feet. August means a battery of tests -- blood analysis, EEG, and MRI -- to try to determine the source of this and how to stop the deterioration. The Neurontin medicine he has prescribed is helping reduce the pain and discomfort but with some side effects also.

I deeply appreciate the interest and prayers that everyone has expressed. I know that this is playing a role in helping me cope much better with all the frustrations of not feeling good and being unable to get much work done for the past several weeks.

The weekend of July 12-15 Greg, Jennifer, and Andrew spent with us while on vacation from Huntsville, TX. We had the most delightful time visiting and doing things around here. On Thursday evening the trip to a local Japanese restaurant proved to be most entertaining and delicious eating. On Friday we spent a good bit of the day at Linville Falls north of us in the mountains, and then Friday evening went to the Charlotte Knights baseball game in Fort Mill, SC. Fortunately on both those days I felt reasonably good, but on Saturday the spinning merry-go-round cranked up and I wasn't able to do much. That seemed okay with the kids since they spent the day relaxing and working on some computer projects through the internet. Saturday evening Daniel and Carrie, along with Brian, Angie, and the kids, came over and we had a family cook out



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University Happenings:

Exciting news came during July from Fort Worth. A dear colleague, Dr. Bert Dominy, managed to bail out of the looney farm called SWBTS and is going to Truett Seminary in Waco to teach theology. That leaves only a few leagues from the real Southwestern still trapped at the seminary. Some thirty or more have managed to leave over the past decade, which means that the theology faculty now bears virtually no resemblance to the one that I taught in for 24 years. Norrisitism has won the day and now rules supreme at SWBTS. But the bright new day is emerging in Texas with the growing ministries of Logsdon at H-SU and Truett at Baylor. The truth of the gospel will indeed prevail over the Pharisaic perversion of it now spewing out of Fort Worth. For that we can praise our Lord!



As August begins, our thoughts turn to the beginning of the **fall semester**. For me that means gearing up for the teaching schedule. This fall I will again be teaching first and third semester Greek courses with a good enrollment in both classes.



The third edition of the electronic Greek grammar will become available during the first part of August and will serve as the basis for these classes. Additionally, I will teach an advanced Greek exegesis course on the Sermon on the Mount with some outstanding students in our undergraduate program, and will offer a theological German reading course to a large group of interested students in the div school. Also, the three sections of Old Testament survey will complete the teaching schedule. It will be a challenging but satisfying semester.

Also, I begin work as the chairperson of the university faculty development committee that has responsibility for planning seminars, the annual faculty retreat each August, new faculty orientation etc. It involves a great deal of work, but the committee members are excellent colleagues with whom to work.

This issue of the **newsletter** is being composed with the new Adobe Pagemaker 7.0 desktop publishing software. This upgrade has added several new, exciting features that allow for more sophisticated creation of documents etc. I am excited about having it available for a lot of publishing projects coming down the pike. The creation of pdf and html files from Pagemaker is much easier now, as well as the ability to import files from numerous other document formats. The revision to the Greek grammar is the first major project undertaken using this software. Gradually the computer system is allowing me to do many new projects with much greater efficiency.





Claire's Musings:

Aug, 2001

Every time I think that things are settling down, something else wonderful happens. Just as Angie, Brian, and the kids are getting settled into their home in Forest City about 15 minutes from here, here comes Carrie and Daniel. The beginning of July they moved to Forest City from the Nantahala National Forest area. They moved to an apartment just a few blocks from Angie and Brian. I've said many times that living in North Carolina is heaven, only now it is much more so.

Daniel is working with Brian now in his flooring business. How fantastic! I have always known that our girls are special and I hoped that they would have happy families someday. They grew up in a happy family. Now they are both married to some special guys and I could not have imagined how great it would be to have two very special son-in-laws. They are both good husbands and Brian is a great dad and Daniel is a great uncle. We love having both families over every opportunity, because we have so much fun together, not to mention lots of laughter.

I have been baby-sitting lately and having a ball. Mostly with Taylor while Clay was taking swim lessons near our house. It has been so much fun (and exhausting), while helping the kids get settled. School will start soon and things will settle down around here, but I have enjoyed every minute that I could with family.

I went with the kids to a drive-in theater and we saw "Shrek" (it was very funny). It was such a unique experience for all of us. For some of them it was a first and for me it brought back memories of a long time ago. We went in two pickups (\$6.00 a car - what a deal) and parked backward sitting in the bed of the truck. We had lawn chairs, blankets, pillows, and popcorn. Taylor spent most of her time playing. Believe it or not, it even started getting cool. What a fun evening!

For the last three years, as I have driven down Main Street in Boiling Springs, I have noticed an older man almost always sitting on his porch. I became curious and stopped one day to talk to him. He was absolutely fascinating, while reminiscing about what Boiling Springs used to be like. While we were talking, many people driving by either honked or waved at him. It was obvious he truly enjoys this. I hope to stop by again from time to time. Another new friend.

Greg, Jennifer, and Andrew visited with us for a few days and we had a fantastic time. It was so good to see them and Greg and Jennifer are great and loving parents. It was so good to see them as parents and the good job they are doing. Andrew, of course, is precious and all boy. We went to the mountains and hiked, and just enjoyed the scenery. The weather cooperated and was perfect. We all went to a baseball game in Charlotte and I think Andrew enjoyed it as much as anyone. My old Texas instincts had me thinking that it would be hot and the sun would be in my eyes. Instead, it was perfect and later in the evening became quite cool. In fact, almost this whole summer has been cooler than usual and I have enjoyed it immensely.

One evening we had a big family get-together with them and Carrie and Daniel and Angie, Brian, Clay, and Taylor. Grandpapa took the kids for his "wagon ride" (pulled by the John Deere lawn mower) around the neighborhood. (Look for pictures on our web site). The whole evening was so enjoyable with all of us together. Andrew and Taylor are just two weeks apart and seemed fascinated by each other. It was hard to see Greg, Jennifer, and Andrew have to leave, but we do have some special memories.



Lorin's Musings:

With the last article we alluded to translation approaches as reflected in the NRSV. With this article I want to shift the topic

from Textual Criticism to **Translation Methods**. In my fourth semester program of Greek studies we go through a unit on "The Theory and Practice of Bible Translation," in which the students learn how professional Bible translation is done and how to use different types of translations in different aspects of their ministry. The Bible survey students in my classes get an introduction into the basics; in Cranfordville.com go to topic 1.7.3 in the Religion 102 Topics section for more details.

I cannot begin to remember how many times I've been asked over the years, "Which translation is the best one?" There is no legitimate answer to such a question! Let me explain.

First, some historical background. Bible translation has become a well defined procedure only in the twentieth century. It achieved widespread consideration in connection with the modern missionary movement which needed a massive number of translations in order to present the Gospel in written form to indigenous languages groups around the world. Closely connected to this is the rise of the various Bible Societies that sponsored the production of these translations. Through the work of various organizations primarily under the umbrella group, The United Bible Societies, not only have printed Greek texts been produced but also hundreds of Bible translations along with the development of the science of Bible translation.

But Bible translation has been done for centuries, beginning with at least the second century AD. Usually, however, it has been a very 'hit-and-miss' process, with no well defined procedure being followed. It was the very poor work of the earliest translators who produced Latin versions of the NT text that prompted the fourth century Church Father, Jerome, to create the Latin Vulgate, which has been the official translation of the Roman Catholic Church for centuries. The almost universal use of the Vulgate in western Christianity effectively halted Bible translation until the 1500s.

Martin Luther in the 1500s saw the potential of a translation in the native German language as a powerful tool for his Protestant Reformation. He thus produced the first widely used translation in German in the early 1520s, and this helped open the door for the Bible to be translated into English. Also, the invention of the printing press by Gutenberg during this time played an enormous role in encouraging Bible translation.

To be sure Venerable Bede had produced a translation of parts of the Bible into old English in the 730s, and John Wycliffe between 1380 and 1397 translated the Vulgate into English, but he was executed for his efforts. William Tyndale is the pivotal English Bible translator in the 1500s following Luther's work .

Continued from Family Happenings:

and a wonderful time together. Taylor and Andrew are just two weeks a part in age, so it was fun watching these two little ones get acquainted.

Daniel and Carrie have now moved to Forest City, just 15 miles from us. Daniel is working with Brian for Kelley Floors. Brian's business is off to a booming start with more work than he can do. We are thrilled to have both families so close now.

