

# PETERSON PERIODICAL

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Third Quarter 2017  
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Dear Family & Friends,

It has been a very busy six months. When I started back in February I had to relearn the chemicals and learned new procedures. The biggest change was learning how to use “The Beast” (aka the carpet machine) for cleaning the kitchen floors instead of a mop. This seemed strange to me, but it really does work better than a mop and in the same amount of time. This summer we’ve also started using it at the end of each camp to clean the Bathhouse and the cabins with bathrooms.

The two big cleaning projects that were done before summer were deep cleaning the 29 cabins so that they would be dust, mold and rust free and replacing the grout in the Bathhouse. It took three of us several weeks to grout and reseal the tile. However, we got it done before Memorial Work weekend.

When the summer staff arrived I trained them in how to use the chemicals and the proper way to keep the bathrooms clean and rust free. They’ve done a very good job helping keep camp clean this summer. Most of the custodial volunteers this summer were 14 and 15 year olds who were volunteering for the first time. It was an interesting challenge. On one hand I can train them to my expectations of cleanliness (think 5 star hotels) and on the other hand they have some chemical handling restrictions and they’re still in what I call “camper mode” where they are expecting to have as much free time as the campers do. We’ve been working on how to balance the work vs. fun so that they don’t get burned out and will hopefully volunteer again.

Custodial often doesn’t lead to 1 on 1 conversations with campers that lead to decisions for Christ. However, we get to lead by example what it means to serve and take the worries of cleaning off of the mind of counselors so that they can focus on teaching the campers about Christ. There were around 500 decisions made this summer; decisions to become missionaries, for salvation, and rededications. Praise God!!!

The other part of my job is being Troy’s assistant cook. This summer what that entailed was me going into the kitchen at 4 o’clock, helping to get supper on and then kick Troy out of the kitchen so that he could have family time and not worry about having to close up the kitchen.



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Bill had a little excitement the start of August; he ended up being in the hospital for five days. He had been getting cold real easily. It got to the point where he couldn't control the shakes, was sweating profusely and acting like he was drunk all while having a temperature that was over 103. The rescue squad was called in. Bill was taken to Dickenson County Memorial Hospital where he was put into ICU. The ER doctor said that he made it just in time. His white blood cell count was extremely low. They found that he had a Urinary Tract Infection which had gone septic. Meaning he was very sick – the infection was in his blood. The doctors found a couple things during testing that made them think that there might be a heart issue as well. They consulted with his heart doctor and decided to fly Bill to Bellin Hospital in Green Bay as they have bigger & better facilities to treat his condition. While he was there his hemorrhoids acted up and were bad enough that they did surgery. He is currently off of no work for two weeks and weight restrictions. We are working with the hospitals on our bills, because we lost our health insurance in June. We are looking at insurance plans, but the cheapest one is \$350 and we don't know if our doctors would be covered. I just had my quarterly visit with my dietician and without insurance is costing us around \$200. We are working with UW Health to cover the bill.

What did I learn this summer? To trust. What does it mean to trust? According to Webster's Dictionary: 1) Firm belief in the character, strength, or truth of someone or something. 2) A person or thing in which confidence is placed. 3) Confident hope. Trust is something that does not come easily and trusting that God **is** in control is even harder. We are control freaks, but as the speaker at the Christian Camp Conference kept saying: "God is older than you, wiser than you and He loves you. You can trust Him." Have I trusted God with everything? Probably not. Okay, no. I am very stubborn, just ask my family. Knowing that God **is** in control and His plan for me is the best one gives me peace. Jeremiah 29:11: *For I know the plans I have for you, "declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* It does not mean that I don't get terrified when Bill gets flown from one hospital to another. However I did have to trust Him that He knew what was best for Bill and me. Just about every week at the prep for ministry meeting on Monday morning we sang the hymn 'Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus. An excellent reminder that yes, we can take Him at His Word and rest upon His promises. The last verse of this hymn has become quite significant to me this summer with all that has happened.

I'm so glad I learned to trust Thee,  
Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;  
And I know that Thou art with me,  
Wilt be with me to the end.

Love,

*Bill & Alice*

Bill & Alice Peterson

#### **Praises**

- That Bill is still with me & we will be celebrating our fourth anniversary August 25th.
- No chargers for the ambulance ride to Dickenson Hospital, because Bill is an active member!
- For the custodial crews that I had this summer. God didn't send just 1 or 2 people, but 4 or 5 to help me clean and move heavy objects.
- For love gifts that came in that enabled us to pay our August mortgage and get some much needed household supplies.
- That Bill's hemorrhoid issue got taken care of. He's very sore and moves like a very old man.
- We have insurance again & it will be covering everything.

#### **Prayer Requests**

For guidance on insurance. I have been without medicine since losing insurance and Bill's is just about out. For the hospital bills that are sure to come. Healing for Bill. Patience for both of us.

