

Praying With My Pen

Volume 1

By Charles W. Gross, Jr.

Manuscript draft March 23, 2010

Copyright 2010 Charles W. Gross, Jr.

Taken from prayer journals dating from Friday, September 3, 1999

Introduction

I have always wanted to publish a book. The trouble is, I can't sit long enough or focus long enough or dedicate myself to this task. Then the idea hit me! I had taken up doing prayer journals in a flash of inspiration on Friday, September 3, 1999. I have maintained this discipline (more or less) for the last ten and a half years. I take great comfort from this prayer time and don't expect to give it up any time soon. The discipline started while I was retiring from a 20 year active duty career in the Air Force and Air National Guard. I was just beginning work on the staff of the Presbytery of Donegal in the areas of new church development, church revitalization and a capital fund campaign. The discipline, that I maintain, centers around breakfast time. It generally consists of scripture readings (sometimes they've been random and other times it's been going through the Bible in a year) and then a written prayer for the day, my work, my family and anything else that comes to mind. It entails a variety of prayer journals. Some cloth bound, some leather bound, some with felt over cardboard. The discipline also entails the use of a pen. These have varied over the years, but my favorite is a fountain pen. My favorite fountain pen is a Mont Blanc Starwalker pen that I received as a Christmas gift from my extravagant children, Angie and Jeff and their amazing spouses, Dave and Taryn. As I bring out these prayer journals, I have a profound sense of awe in the way God has walked this road with me and has provided strength, nourishment, courage and every thing that I ever needed! This sense of awe is overwhelming! When I was writing the daily prayers, I was immersed in the day, in the work, in the "ask" for what I needed. When looking

back, it is with profound joy and awe that I see how these prayers were answered, exactly according to the greater wisdom of God. I am richly and extravagantly blessed.

My hope and prayer in writing this book is that it will inspire a new prayer discipline of your own. Perhaps, it will give you the blessing of praying with **your** pen. Or, perhaps it will simply bring to mind those areas of life, work, family, and faith for which you are profoundly thankful.

May God Richly Bless You! With Love, Charlie Gross

A bit of background

For reasons of space and possibly boredom, I will not be including every day's journal entry. As of March 2010, I have filled over twelve journals with prayers. I will be entering these prayers almost exactly the way I wrote them. There may be times that I will not include a person or an issue for reasons of confidentiality or privacy. Sometimes in my writing, I use the + sign instead of writing out "and." In this work, I will use the word "and" rather than the plus sign. The only other discrepancy might be the use of capitals. In looking back, it seems that I have no good reason for capitalizing words. I will probably make individual decisions in this work about the use of capitals. I hope you understand.

I will be making a number of decisions about what to include and not include in this book. I will not be getting down to the very intimate and personal prayers that I offered. These are and will remain private. I continue, even as I write, to waffle on whether to include representative prayers for each month or include most of the prayers in consecutive order. At this point, it is what it is. Let's begin.

The Discipline Begins

Friday, Sept 3rd 1999

Prayer Journal

Lord God, perfect provider, you have provided me with wonderful instructions on how to live, behave, pray, think, speak and act. Help me to apply your word to my life! Fill me with your marvelous Holy Spirit! Prepare me for the Sunday Service so that it is pleasing to you, uplifting and helpful to the congregation.

Lord, guide me as I attempt to work for you in church revitalization and new church development. Help me to be extremely effective in working, relationship building, communicating, praying and worshipping.

Heavenly Father, I pray for the Chestnut Level Presbyterian Church. Blow your Spirit into our midst! Give us new life, new energy, new hope, a new feeling of unity and God honoring worship and praise! Mend our brokenness, use the chaos to build a stronger and more capable body. For whether we live or die, we are the Lord's!

Sept 4th, 1999

Lord of life, hear my prayer for peace in my mind, tranquility in my days and a deepening of my understanding of you and your love. Lord, fill me with your Holy Spirit! Help me to prepare for the service tomorrow – that I may lead the worship that would be pleasing to you! Also, I seek your assistance in doing a thorough and effective job in new church development and church revitalization. Lord, if you don't build the house, if you don't revitalize the church, we labor in vain! I'd rather not labor in vain, but if its labor that you desire, if its labor that is for you – then labor I will! You also know full well the step in faith that we're making in terms of pay. Lord, show us your greatness, your power, your majesty – show us miracles of meeting our needs! Lord, I trust you for providing for my family and for providing those opportunities to earn the money that we need!

Lord God, I thank you over and over for this wonderful job in ministry! Work with me, mold me, prepare me, make me strong spiritually – Give me a back bone for your work and help me to be a minister for my family and a minister for the Presbytery! I ask this all, in hope, and faith, in Jesus Christ – The Living Jesus Christ!

Sunday, Sept 5th

Lord of my life, hear my prayer of praise! I delight in praising you and worshipping you and acknowledging you as my living Lord and Savior! Bless and anoint me today as your minister to the dear folks at Chestnut Level! Speak through me those Holy words that you would speak to us. Lord, let me decrease and you increase. Thanks so very much for rain and freshness and new life! Thank you for green around us and fresh sprouts of grass and fresh ideas and new faces in our corporate ministry!

Tuesday, Sept 7th

Lord, I trust you and love you more and more. Come close to me and guide my every thought, every word and every action. Help me, I pray, to be effective at church revitalization and new church development. Show me who to talk to, who to visit, what info to gather and how to put it all together! You O Lord are awesome! You have every answer! It is your Will that I seek and not my own. Lord God, develop me in a way that is pleasing to you! Mold me into a servant style leader or into the person You would have me be. I give you all the Glory, Laud and Honor as my redeemer, Savior and King. Forgive me Lord for my constant sinfulness, my waywardness and my spinelessness. Help me to develop the characteristics of a successful church planter and revitalizer! Thank you for listening Lord! Thank you for perfect solutions and all the blessings! Amen!

Sept 8th Wed

Precious Lord and Savior, I love you, adore you and worship you! I want to be more like Jesus. I would rather serve you, preach you, study you, talk about you than anything else. Fill me with your Holy Spirit – Fill me with love abundant and overflowing. Fill me with energy for your work. Lord, continue to nurture me for more effective ministry and managerial expertise. I want to gain the highest possible leverage in my work for you. Most Wonderful God, you have blessed me and my family wildly! Thank you for your love, your care and your saving grace. Prepare me today for the upcoming meetings, help me to be an able facilitator, contributor, and enthusiastic thinker to forward your kingdom and agenda. Bless, I pray, Jeff's decisions and school work and help us to support him in the ways that will truly help. Thank you for being so faithful and loving and giving! In your precious, saving son's name I pray! Amen!

Sept 9th Thur (9/9/99)

Dearest Lord and Savior, hear my prayer for wisdom, energy, focus and getting results that are pleasing to you. Prepare me for the day. Prepare me for meetings and for relationships and for activities to glorify you. Thank you for working in my life

constantly, even when I don't recognize it. Lord, some days I don't have a clear direction, don't know what to do or just lack drive. I want to rely on your calming influence, your grace, your mercy and peace to sustain me and lift me up like the wings of eagles. Thank you for your faithfulness! Amen.

Sept 10th Friday 1999

Lord God – You are so awesome! You are so loving and caring. Thank you for your perfect plan. Thank you for being so totally in charge and omniscient. Thank you for health and wealth and creativity! Help me, I pray, to use the skills, abilities and talents to serve you and work for your glory. Bless my time today and bless the presentation that I'll be making on Monday afternoon and evening at Slate Ridge. May this fit into your will and plans for this cluster of churches. In my precious Savior's name! Amen.

Sept 11th Saturday

Most wonderful, beautiful, loving God! Thank you for a wonderful rest. Thank you for a beautiful day and for your constant care and watchfulness. You have blessed me and my family beyond description! I praise you and worship you and commit my life to your service. Help me to be wildly effective and competent as your servant. Push me to excel for your kingdom, your glory and your purposes. Bless Lisa's day of service to you. Instill your spirit of comfort, assurance and peace! I love you, Lord! Amen.

Sept 12th Sunday

Amazing Lord God! What a beautiful cool Fall day! You create the most marvelous days for us! They're like daily gifts – almost like the twelve days of Christmas. But in this case, it's the 365 days of God's year! Thank you for each new fresh day. Lord, bless this day for your purposes, your will and for our learning more about you. I pray for all the Sunday School teachers and all the children in the new classes! Bless these classes Lord and make them Christ centered, hopeful and loving. Bless my every word, every thought and every deed so that I may reflect your Great Love! Amen!

Sept 13th Monday

Eternal God, how wonderful you are and how wonderful to be able to pray to you – the God of creation, the God of all time and all place and all thought. You alone are perfect and all knowing. Bless this day, I pray, for your will to be done in my life and my family's life. Bless my work that it may be pleasing to you and acceptable in your sight and for those whom I serve. Help me to be a good tool to be used to further your kingdom in the Presbytery of Donegal. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Sept 14th Tue

Dear Loving Lord, watch over our neighbors in the Bahamas as hurricane Floyd rips through on its way to Florida! Strengthen them and keep them safe and focused on you – their only true refuge. Lord, I know that you love us with a steadfast abiding love that will never fail and that is real comfort! Bless this day I pray that it will be productive for your ministry in our midst. Help me to focus on high leverage, truly important issues. Help me to look for ways of training and developing others to increase effective ministry. Lord show me how to leverage my skills, talents and abilities for greater and greater effectiveness and results! I ask this in the name above every name – Jesus Christ! Amen!

Wed Sept 15th

Most Merciful God! Good morning! Thank you for your never ending, always watchful eye and care. You are on duty even while we sleep. Thank you for this world, this life and opportunity to do what you'd have us do on this planet. I praise you for this day and the things that will be accomplished. The Glory is all yours, Lord. You are perfect. You have made us and not we ourselves. Show me opportunities to be more open with my faith and love for you! Increase my leverage to get Your Will Done! I pray for those who have been ravaged by Hurricane Floyd and those to be ravaged. Use it Lord to increase our faith, and reliance on you! In Jesus' name I ask! Amen.

Thurs Sept 16th

Most merciful, loving God! You pour out your love, your faithfulness and forgiveness as in a torrent! It is raining hard from Hurricane Floyd and oh what a fitting symbol of your care for us! You are the great and mighty God who can turn anything into a good for your glory! Thank you for provisions for today! Thank you for work to do. Thank you for a wonderful, creative imagination. Thank you for challenges and growth experiences! You are my Lord and Savior – Jesus Christ! Amen.

Friday Sept 17th

Praise be to Thee O God! You are our strength and our comforter! Thank-you for your incredible goodness! You have kept us safe throughout the raging storm. Lord, fill me up with thy Holy Spirit today and every day. Help me to put the important things first and to keep me focused on your mission and your will. Grant me the strength and energy and courage to be a giver and servant like your son Jesus. Show me what needs to be done and get me moving to do it. Show me how to get more results and more things accomplished through leverage and prayer! For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever! Amen.

Saturday Sept 18th

Lord, Good Morning! What a gorgeous day you've created today! A very cool (40 degrees) crisp and clear day with a bright sun and brilliant blue sky. You alone are God. You alone are awesome. Keep working in me Lord. Don't give up. Have patience with me. I want to grow much deeper in faith and in love with you. Help me to respond to you in praise and adoration. Prepare me for my work in New Church Development and Church Revitalization. Only you can do this work! Work through me, I pray, and the committees that are formed to bring new life to the Presbytery of Donegal! In your precious name I ask this! Amen!

Sunday Sept 19th

What a beautiful day Lord! You prove to us over and over again your Lordship and might and power and greatness! You alone are the one true God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit!

Bless this day I pray for spiritual revitalization. Bless our Praise and Worship! Bless our Sunday School class time. Bless Tom Robinson's message and the session meeting that follows. We trust solely in you, Lord!

Thank you for your plan and your Will. Thank you for preparing us for challenges and for stretching us for greater service for your kingdom! Deepen my faith, Lord. Help me to rely solely on you and your perfect assurances. For thine is the power and the glory forever and ever! Amen.

Monday Sept 20th 1999

Lord, I give you praise and thanks for your word in the Bible. What a comfort it is. You deeply inspired your writers and I know you were please with the result. Continue to use it for encouragement, inspiration and for moving us forward to do your will. Lord, grant me the courage and fill me with your Spirit today to make hospital visits. Be with me mightily Lord. Make your presence known and your healing touch felt. Minister to us in your perfection and in a way fitting for the occasion. Lord, use my skills for your glory, but continue to hone those skills and build them up. Don't let me stagnate.

Lord God, teach me about true leverage and leadership development and disciple making! Make me into a disciple and a bearer of the good news! I ask this in hope, and assurance! In Jesus' name! Amen.

Tuesday Sept 21st 1999

Lord, Good Morning! Thank you for your ever presence and watchfulness! Thank you for the meeting last night and for the pleasure of meeting some new friends. I pray earnestly that I can be a new tool for your work and I can provide more leverage to get your work accomplished. Lord, bless this day and this presbytery meeting. Make it productive in your sight. Amen.

Wednesday Sept 22, 1999

What a wonderful, loving and faithful God you are! I praise you for rest and blessings galore. Lord, I only want to work for your kingdom. Use me for thy will in this place. Mold my talents and skills for your purposes. Stretch me and grow me for your work and your will. Thank you for a wonderful job! Help me to expand the job and get the true work done of getting the message of your love and saving grace to all people! In Jesus' Precious Holy Name! Amen.

Friday Sept 24, 1999

Lord, it is you I trust and you alone for all of life's blessings and necessities. Lord, be my guide in the new work for me of New Church Development and Revitalization! Help me to stay energetic and enthusiastic even in the light of opposition and negativity. Fill me with your Spirit to move your mission forward! Not my will, but thy will be done! Amen.

Saturday Sept 25, 1999

Most Holy God! You are precious to me! You are always with me and will never forsake me. Yea, though I walk through the valley of death, thou are with me. Thank you for your work and labor. Thank you for a great job, but help me to do a really great job. Fill me with skills and abilities that are needed for the work at hand. Help me to leverage what I have and continue to search out new tools, ideas and creative ways. You are the divine author of creativity! I praise your name! Bless this weekend I pray and rest in you for the week ahead with effective, efficient work. In Christ's name I pray! Amen.

Sunday, Sept 26, 1999

Lord, inspire me and fill me with your love and Spirit! I need your help in conducting the Sunday School class today. It's our first time back together again. I can't find my book, so I'm at a loss. Use this time, dear Lord to reunite our hearts and minds for service to you and to those in this world who need us.

Lord God – you are with us even unto the end of the age! Thanks be unto God!
Amen.

Monday, Sept 27, 1999

Wonderful God! I love you and want to serve you and your kingdom. Use me, I pray for your purposes, your glory, your will to be done. Keep increasing my skills, abilities and talents for your work. Lord, fill me with your Spirit and Grace. Help me to focus solely on you and not on myself.

Lord, I pray for a great mission trip for Mark and Abby King! Give them your inspiration as they minister to their foreign missionaries. I also pray for all the children in single family homes! Take care of them in some special way. Nourish their parents somehow and work the miracles that only you can work to bring them up in your love, care and grace. Help me Lord – Only you can! Amen.

Tuesday, Sept 28, 1999

Glory to God in the highest! Thank you for your faithful servants Mark and Abby King! Thank you for your awesome power, majesty and invisible presence. You are the sovereign Lord God. The one true Holy God! Praise your name! Allow me to ride the wave that you create today. In Jesus' precious, Holy name I pray. Amen.

Wed Sept 29, 1999

Lord, you have the whole world in your hands! I praise you and worship you and want to be in your will. Open my eyes to where you are working and to what you are doing. I want to be there. Help me dear Lord to gain a clear picture and focus on what I can do with my talents, skills and abilities. Use me in your plan. Grow my faith and maturity in your perfect love and grace. You are awesome, Lord! I praise you and fall down before you. Lord, fill me with your wonderful Holy Spirit! Make me go forth in joy and proclaim the good news of forgiveness and eternal life in Christ! Amen.

Thur Sept 30, 1999 (Last day on active duty)

Lord God! I praise your Holy name. I give you the glory, laud and honor for my countless blessings, my riches, my health, my family, my all. Lord, help me to see clearly where you are working, what your will is on earth and how I can fit in to it. I pray for wisdom in church revitalization and new church development. Assist us in your mighty way. I know you work in mysterious (to humans) ways and your power is awesome! No task which is blessed by you and in accord with your will is too hard or impossible. You are total possibility! Praise your name! Amen!

Friday Oct 1, 1999 46th Birthday [Retired from ANG]

Lord God! You are absolutely marvelous! You are the one true Holy God. Thank you for inspiration, energy, enthusiasm and your Holy Word. Thank you for a beautiful day – my birthday. Thank you for Rick Warren at Saddleback and his insights into your will for us. Bless, I pray the ministry you are preparing me for and I especially need you and your Holy Spirit as I prepare to teach at Sunday School on the child abuse policy and also at Cedar Grove's session. Lord, help me to see what you are blessing and where you are working and allow me some of the work.

Matt 22:37 “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind Love your neighbor as yourself”

Matt 28:19 “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

Saturday Oct 2, 1999

Lord God you are totally awesome and Holy! Thank you for my health and wealth and many blessings! Thank you for a caring, loving family! Bless them each one in ways that they need but might not understand. You are the giver and sustainer of life – I praise you for it. Lord, I pray for my family and ask your amazing healing spirit to rest on each one. You know the needs, the hurts, and the wounds. Heal every wound, dear

Lord in your magnificent, perfect way. Bring health and wholeness to this family, because that's what you do! Amen!

Sunday, Oct 3, 1999

Wonderful Lord! Thank you for working in my life! Thank you for work in your kingdom. You are the awesome Holy and Perfect God and you create excellence out of mediocrity and perfection out of flaws. Thank you for rest in you! Lord, I do pray for your touch and your healing in family relationships. Only you can work the giant earth shaking, life changing miracles! I count on you and rely on you and your promises. Lord, bless this (your day) mightily. Blow new life and a fresh spirit into Chestnut Level and help us to carry out the Great Commandment and Great Commission! In Jesus' name I pray! Amen.

Monday, Oct 4, 1999

Wonderful Lord, good morning! You care for us in a most loving and perfect way! You are our strength and our hope for life eternal. Thank you for blessings galore! Help me to face reality much more boldly. Teach me to deal with truth and honesty in a whole new way, but being sensitive to feelings and the love for others. You know what I mean, Lord. I need your help! Fill me to overflowing with your love and Holy Spirit. Create in me a clean heart and clear conscience and help me to boldly proclaim your truth and righteousness to all I meet. In Jesus Christ's name, I pray. Amen.

Tuesday, Oct 5, 1999

Lord, you are merciful! You are wonderful! I praise you with my every fiber and my total being. Thank you for health and wholeness and happiness. Guide me, direct me and fill me with your Holy Spirit. Use me for your purposes and your will. There's probably no higher calling than to be used the Awesome Lord God! Lord, show me how to gain leverage in working for your church at Chestnut Level. Help me to make a difference for you. Bless this day, dear Lord, cause you made it! Amen!

Wednesday, Oct 6, 1999

Wonderful Lord God! Thank you for your Spirit of love and acceptance last night! You truly were moving among the session at Cedar Grove. Thank you for your work in moving your mission forward in this presbytery! I pray earnestly that I may go with you and help in some small earthly way.

Thank you for incredible mercy and forgiveness! Thank you for eternal life through Jesus!

I pray for Mark and Abby King's safety in traveling to Israel and France. Bless this mission and let it be fruitful for your kingdom! I pray also for a dear friend in her distress. Fill her with hope of a better life. Protect her and her children from demonic forces of evil. You are her only source of help and refuge. Thank you for perfect answers to all our earthly problems! In Christ's name I pray! Amen.

Thursday, Oct 7, 1999

Praise God from whom all things come! I praise you and honor you and worship you! What better thing can I do?

Thank you for calling me to be yours, dear Lord! I am richly blessed! Thank you for work and witness and eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ!

Hallelujah, Lord! Amen!

Friday, Oct 8, 1999

Good Morning Lord! Wow! You got me up early this morning. I couldn't sleep after 4:30. I love you and praise your Holy name for all good gifts and blessings. I strive to be like Paul – content in any and every circumstance – with plenty or in want. Fill me Lord with your wonderful Holy Spirit – That Spirit of peace and creativity and power and boldness and might! Give me I pray – a Servant heart that I may model love and care and discipleship. Teach me Lord how to express anger – in an appropriate way. Thank you for your great goodness and perfect grace! Bless this day and all that it brings! Amen.

Sunday, Oct 10, 1999

Holy Holy Holy Lord God Almighty! I praise your name and give you the thanks for all life's blessings. You provided a beautiful day for us yesterday and a nice time with the McGills and Frascellas. You provide rain for us today for our crops and dry land. What a caring, loving, awesome God you are! Lord, use me in thy plan. Educate me, mold me, develop me for your use in your will! Use me Monday night as I lead the Presbyterian Women through a study of the 'purpose for the church.' Use your awesome Holy Spirit to fill me, energize me, and speak your truth.

Calm my spirit Lord. You know that I can get upset at small family disagreements or misunderstandings. You can certainly take all things and make them right and you can smooth over anxieties. I pray for Angie, Dave and Jeff today. They are such wonderful, caring, loving kids and giving people. You are an awesome God for sharing them with us! Thank you Lord! Amen.

Monday, Oct 11, 1999

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace and good will to men! What a beautiful day Lord! Thank you. Bless this day for your purposes. Lord, fill me with your Holy Spirit so that I can teach tonight with your power, your words, your wisdom and not my own. For you are the Lord God who brought your people out of Egypt. You provide all things for us! I praise your Holy name! Lord, I need you to show me your will for me. Show me how to gain leverage and do more or do more quality work. It's you I serve and you I love. Bless this week I pray! In Jesus' name I pray and ask! Amen.

Tuesday, Oct 12, 1999 Mom's 65th birthday

Merciful Lord! Thank you for this day! Thank you for your help last night in the Presbyterian Women event. I couldn't have done it without you! You are a faithful, loving and merciful God! Thank you! Bless this day for your purposes and your will. Show me how to be more effective, more productive, more fruitful for your kingdom. I ask this in the name above every name – my savior, Jesus Christ! Amen.

Wednesday, Oct 13, 1999

Wonderful God of Grace! Thank you for this day and the work before me. Bless my family and bless me with your abiding spirit of love, mercy and grace. You are the Holy of Holies! I worship you, praise you, honor you and want to follow you and teach your precepts. Work with me Lord so that my work and effort are not in vain. In Jesus' name I pray! Amen!

Thursday, Oct 14, 1999

Lord of light and life! Praise you name. I sing hallelujah and worship you – for you are the one true, Holy God!

Fill me with your Spirit I pray, Lord. Help me to stand as a witness to your love and grace. Speak through me in your own special way. Use my talents and skills for your service, your glory and your purposes. Thank you Lord. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Friday, Oct 15, 1999 **(Jeff's birthday)**

Holy God! Thank you for another day! Help me not to waste it on my own will and wishes, but to use it for your glory and purposes! You have richly blessed me and my family and for this I give you thanks.

Show me better and better ways of working and getting things done, Lord. Only you can assist me in working more efficiently, more intelligently, and more effectively!

Lord, inspire me with a sermon from you for this week. Help me to re-present you and your Son, Jesus, to the Chestnut Level community! In Christ's name I pray! Amen.

Tue Nov 2, 1999 **Election Day**

Lord God, Good morning! Thank you for a great night of sleep. Thank you for a comfortable bed and beautiful house. Thank you for your constant and abiding care and love and promise.

Bless this day for Thy Will to be done. Be with me I pray at the Percept Task Force meeting and at the Jacobs Ladder meeting. Lord, we are weak, but you are strong. Use us to accomplish your purposes in this place.

Fill my heart, soul and mind with the love that knows no ends! In Jesus' precious and Holy name I pray! Amen.

Tue Nov 9, 1999

Glorious Lord God, Good Morning! What an awesome and Holy God! You are totally in control! Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord! Hallelujah! Lord, I seek your wisdom and guidance in preparing a sermon and worship service for this Sunday! You know our church, you know our hearts – what will you say to us this week? Lord, fill me to overflowing with your Spirit! Enter me and possess me so totally that I respond to your nudgings! Lord, heal the wounds of our faith community! Help us to be a powerful and effective witness to you in this area! In Jesus' name I pray! Amen!

Mon Nov 15, 1999

Sovereign Lord God! How Great Thou Art! What a pleasant rest you've given me. What wonderful compliments people give me – after hearing your word preached to them. What a plan you have! What a powerful Holy Spirit! Equip us Lord with a teaching pastor. Help us to be equipped for our ministry! Show me how to care for, love, visit, phone, write to those in our church who need your ministry! Inspire a plan in us Lord so that we can systematically touch all our members. Fill me, lead me, teach me and gird me for this week! In Jesus' precious and wonderful name, I ask! Amen!

Tue Nov 16, 1999

Lord God – hello again! You are so faithful, so consistent, so awesome! I love your steadfastness and rock solidness. You know me through and through Lord. Fill the gaps in my soul. Fill me with your Holy Spirit so completely that I become a better worker, better witness, better husband and better person because of it. Use even depression to fulfill your purposes. I praise your holy name! Lord, Bless this day of

Presbytery meetings. Help it to be fruitful, productive, informative and inspiring. Thank you Lord for your perfect answers! Thank you for creativity, imagination and energy! In Christ's Holy name I pray! Amen.

Wed Nov 24, 99

Lord have mercy on me a miserable sinner. I am unworthy of your love, unworthy of salvation, and unworthy for what you've done for me through Jesus Christ. Lord, you know me thru and thru. You know my thoughts, my urgings, my whole being. Lord, how awesome, powerful and wonderful you are! For as bad as I am – you are Perfect and Holy! You also forgive my sins and have cleansed me by the sacrifice of your only Son. Thank you, God! Bless this day with productive work – High leverage for your Will and safe travels for Jeff and the millions who are traveling. Bless Bruce Dunham as he prepares and delivers tonight's message! In Jesus' precious and Holy name, Amen!

Mon Dec 20, 1999

Lord, most gracious God! Be with Jeff today and tomorrow in a special caring fulfilling way. Help him with recall and exam taking! Give him the peace that only comes from you. Thank you!

Dear Lord, thank you for brother Garry and his family and his wonderful prayer yesterday. You have richly blessed me with a family of my own and an extended family!

Bless this day I pray! Help me to be productive in your sight. Amen.

Jan 1, 2000 Saturday

Wonderful, Faithful Father. Thank you for your constant presence! You are so good, so caring, so giving, so loving. Thank you for all my blessings. You give faster than we can receive. Thank you for Lisa and what I can learn from her.

Lord, please direct my steps this year. Prepare me for a ministry of your choosing. Equip me for the task and send me forth. I want to follow you! As me – I'm wholly inadequate for the job, but with you as my pillar of smoke, Holy Spirit, Comforter and guide – I can do it.

I pray for my family Lord. Call each one to service for you and to eternal life through the gift of your son Jesus! Bless and heal (named some members of Chestnut Level Presbyterian Church). Bless and enrich (named two acquaintances). Restore them Lord to new life with their son. Help them to start over! In Christ's precious name I pray. Amen.

Sat Jan 22, 2000

Precious, Holy Lord. Thank you for using me in ministry. Keep on preparing me to be better – more effective, more efficient at reaching people with the love and forgiveness of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit!

I pray for your mighty assistance in the pulpit tomorrow and in front of Little Britain. Lord, without you – I am nothing – I am worthless. With you and your Holy Spirit – I am washed clean, a new creature, a powerful witness.

Lord, thank-you for your 'call' – your touch – your Spirit.

I ask your special blessings on my family – call each one into a saving relationship. And I pray for Noemi, Suzanne, Gabrielle. Lord – you are an awesome God. Thank you for hearing these prayers. Amen.

Wed Feb 9th

Lord God! You are the one true Holy God. Thank you for your love, care, life and sustenance! Mend the hurts and cuts and scrapes of life. Help me to deal with conflict in a loving, caring, Christ-like way! Lord, I can't apologize for being human – you made me with your hands. I can apologize for not living the way I should. Help me Lord to do what I should, say what I should, think what I should and pray what I should. Amen.

Tue March 21st 2000

Heavenly Father, I love you! Thank you for calling me to be your own. Bless this day at Presbytery in Hopewell. Let it be a Holy sacrifice and wonderful day of worship for you. Lord, energize us for your work and your will. Inspire us as your people. Give us vision for your Holy will to be done in our area.

In Jesus' precious name I pray. Amen

Sunday March 26th

Magnificent God! You alone are Holy and omniscient! Thank you for creating me and this world. What an experience! Lord, fill me with your Holy Spirit, teach to love others, show me how to serve and not be served. Lord, fill me with words, thoughts and ideas to preach. Take away my evil thoughts, my lusty thoughts, my self-centered thoughts. Make me as pure as the driven snow and as unique as a snow flake. Help me to translate abilities into actions that will bring glory to you! Hallelujah! Amen!

Sunday April 9th

Wow Lord! What a snow storm. It's really pretty! But windy. Lord, you are God. You are the only true merciful grace filled God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit! Lord, open my eyes to a new vision – a new possibility of ministry, a new work. You have made me wildly creative and inventive – for a purpose. Use me in your mighty will for your plans, O Lord!

Bless this day of teaching, praising, thanking and studying. Let it be a song to your ears and pleasant to your hearing. You are the Lord! In Jesus' name I pray! Amen!

Friday April 14th

Lord God Almighty! My life is in your hands. I want to do your will, but you know me to the core. You know that I have reservations, that I'm not 100% committed.

Lord you are increasing my Biblical knowledge – day by day. Thank you for help and knowledge yesterday in prison. Lord, wherever I am – you are there! Praise your holy name. You are tremendously faithful, kind, loving, gracious and merciful. Yet Lord, you are also just and stern and will hold us accountable for our decisions. Lord Jesus, save me from my sins! Save me from myself! You alone can do it. I call on the only name by which I can be saved! Lord, I love you. Bless this day, the work for you, the fun with Gammy! Amen!

Friday May 5th

Gracious and loving Father! Thank you for your grace, mercy and peace! Thank you for your healing mercies for Lisa. You are the great physician. Healing and restoring are your calling cards! You are the Lord! Praise be your name! Lord, I pray that you would use whatever skills, abilities and talents I have for your glory and for your purpose and will. Use me where I am, dear God. Continue to mold me and make me into a servant of yours. I want to thrive at your feet, dear God and help to radiate your awesome love! In Jesus name I pray! Amen.

Sunday, May 14th Mothers Day

Lord – What a wondrous storm last night! You are the one true Holy and Powerful God! You alone are awesome and worthy to be praised. Bless this day I pray for ministry, love, relationships, communication and your will to be done!

Lord, I do pray for healing for my sinful nature. I pray for forgiveness and restoration. I pray for new eyes, a new heart, a clean mind and purity. Lord, without you I am nothing, have nothing, will be nothing and are worthy nothing. With you Lord – All things are possible! Praise God! Amen.

Saturday June 3rd

Wonderful Lord God! You are the Beginning and the Ending! You are my strength, my energy, my portion in life. I praise your Holy name. I ask (humbly) that you would forgive my countless sins. Wash me clean again today in your mercy. Take away my sinful, lusty, fleshly desires and help me become Holy. Lord, I cannot do it myself. This is a project that only you can handle. Lord, I thank you for blessings beyond number, mercies unmentioned and unknowable. I thank you for eternal life through your son Jesus Christ! I ask for you to build that saving relationship with my family! Bless this day of work at Camp Donegal – may it be pleasing in your sight! In Jesus' name I pray! Amen.

Tuesday June 6th 2000

University of Pennsylvania

Lord God Almighty! Be with us today as they try to oblate Lisa's heart arrhythmia. Only you can touch, heal, love and mend a broken heart. Help us with faith, trust and love.

Lord, Thank you for every good and perfect gift! You alone are mighty, Holy and perfect.

Grant us the peace that passes all understanding. Stand with us Lord! Thank you for the many people praying for Lisa today! It is a joy to be in community with believers!

May your name be praised above all! In Jesus' name I pray! Amen.