

HOWe THINGS ARE... November 2017

Happy Thanksgiving!

October 29 was a COOLD day in Atlanta when my brother Steve and I completed a half marathon there. It was very fun but very cold.

The medical roller-coaster

This race was my "I need something other than potential transplant surgery in December to look forward to" event. In July, I received the news that things were not trending well and that a December surgery was a possibility. Two months later, I happily got a reprieve. Numbers improved and surgery in December was off! The new plan then was to recheck every six weeks.

Except six weeks later, numbers took a bad turn and three weeks after that, worst ever, confirming that December surgery is not only back to a possibility, but a reality. December 12 in fact. Medical news here: howethingsare.wordpress.com.

Apparently people are under the impression that surgery for me is a good thing. I do not know what is wrong with these people. A kidney transplant isn't a cure for kidney disease, just a treatment: one involving immune-suppressant drugs, a whole new level of medical appointments post-transplant, monitoring for rejection, for the reappearance of the condition I have (FSGS) in the transplanted kidney. If you're interested in receiving a grumpy/mildly violent response from me, say things like "Congratulations!", "I'm so happy for you", "Oh, praise God" in response to surgery for me and my sister (kidney donor) has been scheduled.

Three ways to give:

1. <https://wycliffe.org/partner/sherylhowe>
2. 800-WYCLIFFE (800-992-5433)
3. PO BOX 628200, Orlando, FL, 32862
Check payable to: Wycliffe Bible Translators'
Note stating "preference for the ministry of Sheryl Howe"

Sheryl Howe

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6114A Webster Way, Waxhaw, NC, 28173
howethingsare.wordpress.com

Health Insurance

In good news, I received notice that I can continue to buy insurance from the Health insurance marketplace for 2018 and the increase in premiums and out of pocket expenses amounts to around **\$80** more per month. This was a relief to me. I didn't know if insurance would be offered and if it would be anywhere in the range of affordable. I understand that it is only possible for me to have health insurance because the rest of you all are paying way more for your insurance than you were when people like me would have been uninsurable either because of pre-existing conditions or because I'd met the limit of what insurance would pay back when they were allowed to have max amounts.

My kind of crazy

I'm very pleased at how confident I feel about being away from work for two months for surgery. I work with fantastic people who will do just fine without my being there. That's a good feeling.

November 11 is an annual event: Wycliffe World Day of Prayer. It commemorates November 11, 1933 when Wycliffe's founder, Cameron Townsend and his colleague, LL Ledgers were initially denied entry to Mexico, prayed and were then able to enter. That event has been marked in Wycliffe as a reminder: **"Prayer does not equip us for greater works; it is the greater work."** –Oswald Chambers

At the event this year, the 1933 story was recounted, along with many other events in Wycliffe's history: reminders that God is faithful and far more interested in the work of Bible translation than we are.

The event was held in the auditorium on campus. The room was packed. At one point we walked around the room to where different "prayer stations" had been set up. I walked around seeing a room full of people I know. They're people who've chosen to give their lives to the work of Bible translation. They've shared about their walk with the Lord. They've prayed with and for me. They are the body of Christ and I'm a part of them. I belong here. These are my people (i.e., this is my kind of crazy right here).