

Dear Jeff,

Eagle News:

I hope this letter find you very well and filled with His peace and joy!!



We recently met to celebrate Jimmy's birthday. All members of this family are stuck at 25 years old, so that's what we celebrate. Our turnout was a bit low, but we had a great time!

In the picture from left to right, Aurelia and Henry, Steve, Jimmy, Kevin, Art, Steve, Sekou, Bob, Christian, and Eric.

This last Saturday was very special for me. We had about 20 men (and 2 women) meeting to praise, worship and fellowship. There was a message from God strongly laying on my heart. As the service started, Henry said that God had laid a scripture on his heart, Psalm 91. It was exactly the scripture He had given to me! (not a surprise, same Spirit). Then Sekou spoke on fear and how we have nothing to fear, as God has got us! Both of them gave the same message that

God had given to me, but did it so very much better than I could – not so good with speaking... God is awesome – giving us all the same message to lift His men!

I made breakfast for dinner – seems to be a favorite lately around here. I made million \$ bacon – bacon caramelized with brown sugar, cayenne pepper, black pepper and red chili flakes. I made monkey bread and chili/cheese egg bake to go with the bacon. Of course, any time we have bacon, it's a good meal!! Mario joined us for the first time – everyone was very excited to see him – and he brought cheesecake. Sekou was in 7th heaven...

We have finished installing the new floor, as you can see in the picture above. I absolutely love it and think it is extremely beautiful. Steve B is glad it is over as he did most of the work! Larry helped out with some of the measuring and cutting, but it was a challenge for them to become partners (as each had their own ideas on how to do things).

Most of the men have been laid off or had their hours cut at work. One has his pay cut nearly in half, so this is a challenging time. I've been working virtually from home for the last couple of years, so I've not been impacted by the virus.

Jimmy, Kevin and Luis are living in the room we had planned to be our sanctuary. It's at the same house where Sekou lives. Steve B, Larry, Eric, Art, Bob, and Christian are living with us just 6 houses down from the other house. We got rid of our living room furniture and our living room is now our permanent worship center. We are a bit full on Saturday evenings, but it is a huge blessing to look out and see so many of His men gathered together. Carrie Ann and Dave, Aurelia and Henry, Steve B, James, Jimmy, Kevin R, Kevin Y, Mike, Art, Steve, Sekou, Bob, Christian, Eric, Larry, Audie, Luis, Steve S and me are usually here each Saturday.

The worship team has grown to regularly include Mike, Steve B, Kevin (Ray), Jimmy, and Sekou. Christian and Dave join them some weeks. We are **incredibly** blessed.

Kevin R has taken over quite a bit of the computer related work for the ministry. This has freed me up a bit. All the men are taking turns cooking and that has freed me up a bit too. Art has taken over kitchen detail every evening. Bob does a good cleaning of the floors weekly. Steve B is still managing all the house related issues. I'm not feeling so overwhelmed... (it's a good thing) 😊

Steve Massari is coming home on 4/9. Steve S says we have everything ready for him and we are excited to finally meet him!

Christian is off parole on 4/2 and is going to visit his Mom in South Carolina the next day. He is flying and will be returning on Monday. He will let us know if he is going to move there after he comes back.

Larry had a fever and was feeling very sick, so he went to the clinic. They kept him in isolation for 2 days, then moved him to the hospital. It was not the virus and he is all better now. While he was out, he got laid off, but they said they will be calling him back after the lockdown ends. He has an interview this afternoon.

Jimmy, Kevin, Eric are still working, but have had their hours cut in half. Christian was let go. Art is working full time and not impacted. Luis is working but was moved to days. Bob is still working at the airport and has some over time. Steve B is still working at Eagles' Nest.

Jeff Starr is the next person coming home in January of 2021. His parole hearing was VERY confusing, as we thought they would want to release him with a tail rather than paper free in January. They surprised us. His plan is to move to Cottonwood when he is released, but we will still count that as coming home, because he is our family too! 😊



My mother, Joan, was diagnosed with cancer earlier this year. She had surgery, but there were a couple of hot spots remaining, so she is currently going through chemo. She has lost her hair, so she wore this hat with dreadlocks to encourage us all that she is doing ok. She is wearing a bracelet that Christian gave her. It says, "Fight like a girl". She likes that very much!!

Please keep her in your prayers. Chemo is not for whimps...

James overcame his challenges, and is doing well. He recently visited his mom and dad in Missouri. He had a great time!

Bob got employee of the month this month with a certificate and \$50 gift card. He was very happy and we are very proud of him. He is playing the Safeway monopoly game and plans to win a million dollars. When he wins, we will find a church building...

Kevin (Ray) had his gall bladder removed. He is doing well, but still working on passing some kidney stones and could use your prayers.

We have not heard from Glenn, George, Randy, Shawn or Travis, so I cannot report on their progress or wellbeing.

Steve and I are doing well.

The other night we were coming home – it was dark and I was exhausted. We have a neighbor woman that lives next door. She does her best to cause problems. That evening, she called me over to listen to her talk. She assured me she was not drunk (she is a VERY mean drunk), so I went over to listen to her. Most of what she said didn't make much sense, but I found out her name is Sandra. Please keep her in your prayers. She has mental issues and her drug and alcohol usage does not mix well with the meds her doctor gives her. She kept mentioning 'Kit', so I finally asked her who is Kit. Turns out there is another Christian ministry (and on our street). It's called Neighborhood Ministry and has been serving this neighborhood for over 25 years. After I came in the house, Sandra sent someone over with a book for me to read. It was all about the founding and growth of Neighborhood Ministry and was very encouraging to me. I've finished the book (except the lessons learned), I don't want to read that too quickly, so waiting to find a quiet time to finish. Then I want to go find Kit and see if we can help with her ministry. Since they are a family ministry, they may not know what to do with the high volume of registered citizens that are also a big part of this neighborhood. Anyway, I'm excited about this and ask you keep it in your prayers.

So...how can you pray? Our prayer requests do not change but are so very important to us! Thank you for praying and not growing weary. God answers these prayers (like you don't already know that) and they are essential to our well-being and success. In addition, please pray that those of us who are married will continue to grow in our relationships. Marriage is intended as a reflection of our relationship with God. We face many challenges and your prayers are essential.

Please pray for God's people, that they will focus on God, listen carefully and always obey. Pray that we will all love Him with all our hearts, souls, strength and minds, that He will make us feel and see what He feels and sees and that we will all represent Him VERY well!

Please pray that in addition to loving and supporting each other, we reflect Our Lord so that those not already in relationship with Him will be drawn to Him.

Steve and I are feeling VERY blessed! God is faithful. God is more than capable. Please pray that we keep our focus on Him and that He receive all the praise and glory!

We want to be exactly where God wants us, doing exactly what He wants us to do – all the time.

Blessings!

Steve and Deb Schmidt