

Janna Robertson

From: Mary Herman <bbfiteacher1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2019 8:17 PM
Subject: January Letter

January 2019

Dear Pastor and Praying Friends,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus! I trust you have enjoyed a time of celebration of His birth and special times with your friends and families. I was able to go to Oklahoma for a week to be with family and then back to Springfield for Christmas and New Years.

I have been waiting to write until I knew more of the situation with my shoulder and whatever decisions must be made in that regard. It has been a frustrating time as I had hoped to have any corrective surgery early in January and be able to keep my schedule. However, the wheels of medical science can turn more slowly than my plans. The MRI revealed that I have 2 complete tears of the rotator cuff - 2.5 cm and 2.3 cm plus other issues that will also be corrected. All of this has been painful, significantly affected movement and sleep. **My surgery is set for Feb. 4. I would appreciate prayers for the surgery and recovery.** The recovery time is estimated to be 6 months. The first 6 weeks I will be in a sling and have therapy but allowed no personally generated movement at all and 6 more weeks of therapy with some personal movement allowed.

Although I have been discouraged, **I had to realize that God knew this. I simply must adjust to the bigger plan.** I have spoken with Dr. Konnerup about the findings and he agrees that I should take a medical furlough to get the health issues resolved. The missionaries with whom I was to serve this spring have been very understanding and willing to reschedule. I feel sure I will have recovered well enough to keep my fall schedule and, hopefully, add some of the spring schedule to that trip.

Due to age and health, I have had to slow down. My heart still wants to do it all, but the long flights to Asia and the South Pacific have become very difficult for me. Although I could possibly

go to Africa from Europe, the Americas and Europe will now be my primary focus as long as the Lord is pleased for me to continue. **My supporting pastors and the people who give sacrificially have stood with me over the years. You are a huge blessing to me. Words cannot express my gratitude for your generosity, but I feel I need to honestly share my situation.** I am not retiring; I just haven't been able to keep the schedule I did for many years. If you feel a need to reduce or redirect my support due to these factors, I would understand.

Joyfully Serving,

Mary