

*Where we live and  
worship with the brethren  
in Northern New York  
(30 minutes from Canada)*



Tom Rainwater  
P.O. Box 14  
Dexter, NY 13634  
(813) 595-1667  
[wtrainwater@gmail.com](mailto:wtrainwater@gmail.com)  
September 19, 2024

Dear brethren in Christ,

Greetings from where the locals call “the North Country.” I hope this letter finds you all doing well. The leaves up here are beginning to turn, so autumn will reach its glory in a couple of weeks when we are bathed with color.

In previous letters, I spoke of my cardiovascular problems and the need for ablation surgery on my heart. Finally, after all this time of seeing doctors and waiting, that surgery is scheduled for October 14 in Syracuse. In the meantime, I’ve had issues with dangerously high blood pressure and additional atrial fibrillation. A heart monitor showed that I have a-fib while I sleep at night. This may explain why I’m tired during the day. My cardiologist changed my blood pressure medicine, which seems to be helping. In the midst of this, I came down with Covid in August and was ill for almost 3 weeks. At least, I now have new doctors I trust, and I am hopeful that my surgery will be a huge step toward feeling healthy again. Please pray for a successful outcome.

In regard to my financial support, one congregation has informed me that they will be unable to continue providing support in December. That will be a loss of \$530 from my budget at the end of the year when hospital bills from the surgery will likely be coming due. Any additional help that you can provide would be appreciated.

The work here is going well. I’m teaching Isaiah in the mid-week Bible class, and am close to finishing 1 Corinthians in Sunday’s class. I continue to study with Jesus “Tony” Medina every Friday. I recently finished a series of lessons on the family, especially the role of husbands and wives toward each other and the children. We covered God’s creation of the family in Genesis 2, and God’s models for marriage in Ephesians 5. This was in conjunction with our 2024 theme of “Godly Relationships.” I’m preparing lessons regarding how brethren should behave toward one another. Included will be the topics of brotherly love, forgiveness, and conflict resolving.

The Indian River congregation has been growing in number. Two new families are now meeting with us who have moved to the area to stay. On Sundays we have been averaging near 40 in attendance. I’m encouraged by the willingness of the young men to participate in worship, teaching us new songs and, on occasion, preaching to us from God’s Word.

One of our members recently had an accident while burning brush, receiving second-degree burns to his face and arms. Thankfully, with treatment, he is now recovering nicely. Once again, the brethren showed their love and compassion by rallying together in support of a family in need. The day this brother was released from the hospital, he showed his determination to attend Bible study in spite of pain from his injury and being wrapped up with bandages and covered with medicinal salve. We were all moved by his desire to study with God’s people.

Thank you for praying for us in the work here in Northern New York. And thanks again for your encouraging cards, texts, and emails we receive from you. We deeply appreciate your help. Without it, we could not be here. May God continue to bless you in everything you do for Him!

Your brother in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Tom Rainwater'.