

Bits of Home Chat: Hey to all of you; we are here, working in the office with our new helper, Melissa. She is willing to learn and do whatever we ask of her. For me, Mrs. E., I am soooo thankful to have another female to talk to here. God has blessed us! Carl's arm is improving some each week now, but he got a burn on his hand due to a severe poison ivy reaction. His hand and fingers swelled terribly, and he got big blisters on the fingers. It was on his left hand, the one that was on the broken arm. He had, for the first time, decided to try to work. He supported the bad arm and used the hand to steady and hold 2 large electric cords he was cleaning and putting new ends on. They had gotten hit by the mower when the grass got tall enough that it hid where the cords were. Anyway, He worked for some time that way, pulling them through his left hand, wiping with his right hand. There must have been cut off ivy that juiced up those cords. Carl could not scrub and rinse the left hand well and he did not get it done enough. I would have helped, but I did not realize that ivy was growing out there. He didn't either! His hand and fingers swelled and got huge blisters on the fingers. The doctor told us that the ivy actually burned his hand and that he must have Silvadene, a burn ointment, put on twice a day and bandaged with wide gauze and tape. That's not all of it though, his hand touched his stomach and chest at night and the ivy was on them before it got bad enough on the hand to realize what it was. He has suffered pure misery day after day and night after night. We know that God does allow suffering in our lives, and it is always for good somehow. We continue to look up to our perfect, inerrant God..... On Labor Day we cooked and served oven baked barbecue chicken legs and thighs, roasted chicken breasts, scalloped potatoes, green beans from the canning this year, with bacon and onion, a pot of our cooked corn with butter and salt, fresh tomatoes, pickles, crescent rolls from Alan, Jelly that I made, apple pie cookies from a granddaughter, lemonade, iced tea and coffee. There was plenty of food and people seemed to have a great time eating and fellowshiping! One of the older grandsons wanted to learn to make our old family recipe for ice cream. It was from my Gramma who also had a farm with cows and chickens. So, he and another young man watched as I made a custard on the stove made of milk, eggs, sugar, and cornstarch. They watched and listened to special instructions about keeping it from sticking. After it was cooked, I added more milk and sugar, canned milk, and vanilla. They saw to the churning of it. There were so many people here that I was shocked and hard pressed to be a good hostess. We did it with the help of some of our kids and grandkids and my brother, Alan. We invited our boys' families, and they invited some others. We ended up with 25 people here. That's a lot of people. Oh, yes, and we had 2 dogs here for part of the day..... It was so precious to be with the folks who came. They all are related or go to our church. One was the fella who had a stroke a couple of months ago. His wife and he needed the fellowship. One was a young man who loves being with our grandsons and granddaughters. Thankfully I had gotten the grandkids' old toys out some months back and put them in the little apartment like room in the basement. The little people could run around, play and be supervised by the 3 teen girls who usually fellowship there. It was perfect! The reason we were inside was because the outside was about 90 degrees and humid. Some of the men were out a bit. The young men spent some time on the deck where all the fully grown containers of flowers give shade. I have to go for now, but hope you all are well. Love in Christ, The Earleys

Memory Verse:

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

Verses to ponder: the theme is "God of Peace and the Gospel of Peace"

Romans 15:33; Romans 16:20; Philipians 4:9; I Thessalonians 5:23; Heb 13:20 & 21; Isaiah 66:12; Romans 10:15; Ephesians 6:15