



Maine Maritime Ministry

Sharing the gospel and love of Jesus along the coast of Maine and beyond

We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

Dear Family & Friends ,

February 10, 2016

God is so good! We knew God was leading us back to Maine for ministry, but I never dreamed He would lead me to a little coastal hospital for far better health care for my concussion. After a year with my neurologist in New York, I found my doctor did not have an understanding of my condition. She did not do any testing nor encourage me to see an occupational therapist. God led me to a superb occupational therapist (OT) here in Maine. However, my OT said if I came to her ten years ago, she would not know what she knows now. Both she and the little hospital have specialized in brain injuries these last ten years and they have learned much!

The OT tested me and found that my vision has shifted 15 degrees to the left and 10 degrees down. (You can see this from the picture at Dan & Sarah's wedding! The picture also shows how well Vickie is coping. I guess marriage to me is a gamble!) That was no surprise to the OT because 80% of the brain's visual processing happens in the back of the head, the very area I struck hard on the black ice. My brain also changed from processing things horizontally to vertically. She told me that my brain is working overtime to compensate for these and other issues, which is why I get headaches and my brain shuts down with fatigue, in order to protect itself. If I do nothing about this, I would have this condition for the rest of my life. With a multitude of exercises, I can recalibrate my brain and get back to normal. The exercises are quite painful but will help!



On top of that, my new neurologist here in Maine is much more thorough than the one I used to have. He said people with my type of CEO personality take longer to heal from concussions because their brains are so busy they do not get a chance to rest and heal. Also, both this neurologist and occupational therapist are recommending an optical neurologist (only one in state of Maine but does not take insurance) who specializes in this condition and prescribes prismatic glasses to help retrain the brain. It just so happens my occupational therapist studied under this highly specialized neurologist. Boy, God does have it all in control! Go to a tiny Maine hospital and they just happen to specialize in my condition!

Enclosed is a draft of a brochure I have written as an evangelistic tool to use along the coast of Maine. I would appreciate your feedback. In it I refer to a true old sea salt, Captain Jim. He and his wife have sailed the world in their schooner over the last 50 years. In his retirement, he has built a world class maritime museum where he has many one of a kind artifacts. Many of these artifacts were used to discover and document celestial navigation in a ground-breaking book written in 1604. Jim even has the first edition of that book and the astrolabe the author used to write it. Amazing! Well, I refer to Jim and his museum in this evangelistic pamphlet. I want to give it to him for his approval to reference and witness to him at the same time. Please pray that the Holy Spirit touches his heart with the gospel of Jesus Christ!

Your servant and His,

Chris and Vickie Gerardi

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