

## The New Normal

Normal: Usual, typical, or expected. *synonyms:* ordinary, common, every day, regular, routine. . .

We use the word ‘normal’ quite often to describe our daily activities, work, family, etc. I have a ‘New Normal’. As of May 30<sup>th</sup> my husband and I have sold our home and we are in the process of getting ready to build a new one.



Well, ‘we’ aren’t actually building anything, but you get the idea. For now, we are staying at our daughter’s cabin. She’s generous like that. You might think, that’s awesome staying at a cabin for the Minnesota summer. Okay, yes it is. Did I mention that this cabin is on an island and I have to drive over a covered bridge when I go anywhere? The other day as I was going to the gas station I saw a bald eagle on the side of the road just feet from my truck. I was kind of excited about it and I told the gal behind the counter at the gas station. She said, “We see that all the time.” Hmm, I guess that’s my ‘new normal’.



Living at a cabin does not come without its adjustments and a ‘new normal’. I have approximately 3 ft. of closet pole. Oh, and I share that 3 ft. with my husband! We have no laundry, so today I did something I haven’t done in a very long time. I went to the laundromat. It wasn’t that bad, I finished all my laundry without having to wait for the previous load to finish. My ‘new normal’ includes the sound of loons on the water, along with a multitude of other critters.



It is definitely a hike to the CBNC office, but since I have such a wonderful boss he has agreed to let me work remotely from the cabin on Tuesdays and Fridays. On Wednesday mornings I will drive to the office, stay overnight at my son’s home, and work in the CBNC office on Thursdays. My son & his wife have two little girls, so they were excited to find out that Grandma would be spending the night. It’s my ‘new normal’.

Speaking of my wonderful boss, Pat and Karen Phinney have a ‘new normal’. Cancer has brought a ‘new normal’ to their lives. Treatments, surgeries, side effects, are all a part of their ‘new normal’. We appreciate so much all the support you have given them in the way of prayer and encouragement. I would ask that you please continue to pray for the Phinneys as they adjust to their ‘new normal’ and continue this battle.

A ‘new normal’ is not always a welcome thing. Have you ever wondered what our ‘new normal’ will be when we reach Heaven? I was thinking about it the other day. It certainly will not include lack of closet space, laundromats, or battles with illness. Jesus made provision for us by giving His life. Heaven must be spectacular for God to have provided a way for us and for Jesus to go through so much pain and anguish to give us this amazing gift. I know that in heaven there will be no more pain, no more sorrow, and no more death. (Rev. 21:4) Can you imagine. . . just imagine. . . a ‘new normal’ with none of these.

*Wendy Jonassen, CBNC Administrative Asst.*