

December 2019



On October 29, 1941, Winston Churchill was giving a speech at the Harrow School where he attended as a boy outside of Central London. He made this famous comment to the students, “Never give in, never, never, never – in nothing, great or small, large or petty – never give in . . .” That perfectly describes our mindset in December 2019. We continue to never give in against the battle of cancer.

Taxol treatments numbers 4-6 continued throughout November for Karen. Her up and down side effects have shown to be pretty typical within each of the weekly treatments: occasional sleeplessness, digestive issues, some nausea and extreme fatigue. In it all, Karen continues to be strong as a warrior and I am proud of her. God has been faithful.

December will take us to the finish line of the first three months of treatments in this regimen. The plan has been to have three months of chemo that includes 9 Taxol treatments. On December 19, we will complete number 9 and that will lead us to long waiting CT scan on December 26. This will clearly show the status of the disease and determine our next steps for January through March.

As always in the past 27 months, we ask for your continued and steadfast prayers as we await the results. If the scan is positive, then Karen will continue the second three months of 9 treatments and another CT scan in late March. If the December 26 scan still shows the progression of cancer, then they will take a second look at everything and establish the best course suitable for 2020.

The Psalmist said in 119:14, “*You are my refuge and my shield: I have put my hope in your word.*” We continue to walk in this hope that God will choose to heal Karen. Thank you all so much for walking with us in this journey of faith.

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and a wonderful hope filled New Year.

*With much love to you all,
Pat and Karen Phinney*