

## Monday - March 6

*Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.*

*Psalm 107:6 (NIV)*

We bought a spiral cut ham for our daughter's family to come over Christmas day and then have sandwich leftovers for the next day when both of our kids/families would be coming. Then our daughter Holly told us the four of them would be staying home on Christmas day! They wanted to have a cozy Christmas with their kids who were hanging around home. We were really disappointed.

We had to go to Sylvania the Monday before Christmas, staying at Joan's sister's home the night before their brother's open heart surgery in Ann Arbor. His three out of the four major valve, open heart, surgery went really well. He sounded great the day after surgery and looked great when we drove up to see him on the 22nd!

While in Ann Arbor we got a call from an old Toledo friend who now lives in Kentucky. For many years, Al had been taking mission trips to Haiti and a friend he made (Dabel) had escaped the violence and just landed in Columbus. He was having trouble wiring him money and wondered if we could help get warm clothes and some food to him. Since brother Wes was doing so good, we felt really comfortable driving home. It was dark before we arrived, but we beat the winter storm that was coming THAT night!

We made a couple of calls, our neighbor gave us a coat and sweater, Pastor Katya's husband gave us a brand new looking coat and we got some food from the mission pantry at church Christmas Eve. We added some warm clothes, some food (they love rice and beans) AND cut off a big chunk of that ham. After church on Sunday, we found our way to the inner city with five bags of donations! I wish you could have seen Dabel's huge smile as he received that coat, which he put on right away!!!

I've heard "here God closes a door, He opens a window." Here we thought a door was slammed shut for our Christmas, but I really believe God had another idea! Joan told me that she had been praying for God to show us how we could brighten someone's life on Christmas day! We thought we'd be down in the dumps, but it turned out to be the best Christmas ever!!!

Tim

**Prayer:** Dear God, thank you for answering prayers and for showing us that You are there to be seen....even when we least expect it! Amen.