

The first news account we read about the accident in which our son was critically injured said that he was fighting for his life. Anyone who knows our Noam knows that he is energetic and persistent, so that statement could not have been truer. With injuries to his spleen and lungs and fractures of his pelvis, ribs and right arm, and severe abrasions on his face and left elbow, his life indeed hung in the balance.

Yet, the One who created Noam with such an insatiable love for life did not abandon him when in deepest need. We want to thank everyone who played a role in Noam's rescue and medical treatment: Noam's bus driver and fellow students who were concerned and cared for him immediately, the EMS, police, and fire crews who responded to the scene, and the excellent trauma team at Lancaster General Hospital who stabilized his condition. We also want to thank the flight crew who transported Noam to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the outstanding Doctors, Nurses and support staff who have cared for him round-the-clock since his arrival.

Above all, we especially want to praise God for Noam's survival and recovery. Over the past week, we have witnessed the power and newness of God's mercies every morning such as when Noam's right leg showed signs of life after a surgery to restore blood flow from a blood clot, when the CT scan showed no spinal cord damage, and when the MRI confirmed "his brain will be fine."

We understand the journey to full recovery will be long with peaks and valleys along the way. One week past the accident, Noam began his day alert and talking, doing his math flash cards from school, eager to watch the Phillies on TV and build Legos. Those moments of normality, however, were followed by twelve hours of anxiety and confusion. Then, by God's grace, Noam's frown turned into laughter as he began making funny faces with Mommy. While concerned with the many unknowns of our days ahead, we are eternally grateful that Noam is still part of our family and that we have another opportunity to celebrate his birthday with him on Friday (May 26). With the prophet Isaiah, we "Proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" *is* 2017, Noam's seventh year of life!

We are thankful for all the ways our family, church families, LM community, neighbors and concerned members of Lancaster and Chester counties have reached out to us in the past week. We have felt prayer support and encouragement from many in Pennsylvania, Virginia, and beyond. In spite of the shock and hardship we have been through, we have never felt more supported and well cared for. We have set up a Caring Bridge website for Noam and invite you to follow our journey there. All the supportive comments and offers of help are sustaining us through this difficult time.

Mike, Sheri, Noam, and Eden Weaver