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Email from Mom, 13 August 2012

Joyce Larsen <linenlady9@gmail.com>

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To: Phillip Larsen <phillip.larsen@myldsmail.net>

Cc: John Larsen <john@larsen-family.us>

Good morning, Elder Phillip Edward Larsen!

I hope things are going well with you. We pray for you daily. I just finished reading Dad's email to you, as I always do, to avoid giving you double the news. He is out doing stuff with the battery for the van right now. I'm not sure of the problem. I think it is a little more complicated than he thought, somehow. And I'm getting ready for a yearly checkup that I had scheduled at 10am, and had forgotten about. But for the next two weeks, we can "chat" when you email! Oh, also, after Dad finished your email last night, Lori called, needing some "quick" help with getting Marnie's pictures off her camera and onto the computer. I'm learning that "quick computer help" is not possible, usually. He was just getting ready for bed, then was up another two hours helping Lori!

Dad pretty much told you about the news for this past week. I loved having MaryAnn here. It was my vacation, too, taking day trips with her, and visiting with her. I was thinking this morning that the nice thing about summertime is more time to be less scheduled, to just do things without watching the clock all the time for the next thing to do. I'm hoping to slow things down during the school year this year, so that I can at least get enough sleep on a regular basis. Of course, I always say this! We'll see if I can make any changes to make life less stressful.

On Monday of last week MaryAnn and I took the girls to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. That was fun, and a very full day. We drove right down into Boston, because MaryAnn was not sure if her knees would put up with all of the walking we would need to do if we drove into Alewife and took the train in. It worked out all right, though driving in Boston is definitely not my favorite thing to do. Then the day ended with the cake and candle race for Stanford. Sometimes I have felt like he was with us during these celebrations, and this time I was focused on the very full day, and making sure people had milk and cake and dinner before that, so I don't know if I just wasn't paying attention to spiritual things, or if he wasn't there this time.

Tuesday was a bit quieter day, getting things ready for the Wilsons to leave, and me doing errands that needed to be done. As Dad said, we ended the day by eating at Friendly's restaurant.

The rest of the week I went back and forth to YW Camp, not staying overnight because of Winston and his needs. I did enjoy sleeping in the comfort of my own bed, and having the AC, though the driving gets old fast. Meesa Jeans, who was just released as YW President in our Ward, had asked me to be a leader at Girls' Camp this year, to help Mallory Henkel. (Kendall Hood is the new YW President). I told her I would be happy to help out, but I could not be there until after the Wilsons left on Wednesday, and I would have to travel home at night. YW Camp was fun. It was nice seeing all of the girls and getting to know them a little better.

Well, it's time for me to go to my appointment. So I will try to write more when I get home, though you won't get it until next week.

I love you very much, Phillip! But you know that. And I'm so pleased at your missionary work, and pleased at the growth of your own testimony. More later.

Love,
Mom