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December 2023

Dearest friends and family,

For the most part, it seems like things over the past year have settled into a new “normal” in our world. A lot has changed in recent years as a result of the pandemic and other triggers in our culture and world, but we’re getting accustomed to it.

As we watch the war in Israel, the flood of immigrants coming across our borders and invading our cities, as we deal with the increasing lawlessness of our culture and country and cringe at the political venom and recoil as our culture calls evil good and good evil, it’s easy to get discouraged. But we can take heart! As I said in last couple of years’ annual missives, Psalm 11:4 says, “The Lord is in His holy temple; the Lord is on His heavenly throne.” None of what’s happening in the world is any surprise to Him, and nothing is beyond His control. We can take comfort in that, and we can trust Him.

As we enjoy this Christmas season, we think of the birth of our Savior and Lord, and we are also reminded of all the dear people that have been a blessing in our lives. We trust that each of you is doing well. For Phyllis and me, the past year has been one of challenges and blessings, a year that has drawn us closer to the Lord and renewed our thankfulness that He is on His throne and sovereign over all.

Phyllis has continued to suffer from migraines, but treatments and medications from the neurologist that she began seeing a couple of years ago are yielding some positive results. She has more days without headaches or with ones that are tolerable and fewer headaches that take her out of action. We pray that she will continue improving. She very much enjoys reading (several books a week), working big, complex jigsaw puzzles, and watching the colorful tropical fish in our two large aquariums. We moved one of our tanks from her upstairs craft room to our family room downstairs, and that has added much enjoyment.

Jordon and Amanda continue to do well along with their furry feline “children,” Scooby and Penny. Jordon continues to work as a professional drone pilot working in the oilfield service industry. Amanda still works with her dad as chief engineer of Crawford Broadcasting’s four Denver radio stations and is busier than ever with the many projects and never-ending problems and issues that arise. As the president of our company recently noted, she has moved out from Cris’s shadow and is very much respected and appreciated for her own talents and work product throughout the company.

Our son Gary continues to deal with some limitations resulting from a stroke he had three years ago this month. He and his son Kayden (5) live in the Dallas area. Phyllis got to see and visit with them both back in October during a visit to Texas.

It’s hard to imagine that we have a great-granddaughter that will turn three at the end of this month. She and her mom, our granddaughter Sara (25), are doing well. They live in Arkansas. Grandson Sean (23) lived in Euless, Texas.

Cris is in his 40th year with Crawford Broadcasting Company and still loving it. He is grateful to have Kingdom work to do even as he works to support his family, and he knows it is both a blessing and a calling of God. He continues to enjoy flying whenever he can and amateur radio, visiting with friends near and far, from home, from our cars and from our mountain cabin. For those of you who are amateur radio operators, you can find him on 7166 kHz on Saturday and Sunday mornings from 7-8 AM Mountain.

We continue to be members of our churches both in Aurora and in the mountains. We love both our church families and look forward to worshiping with one or the other every Sunday. We have had some challenges at our mountain church in recent months. The pastor stepped down and Cris, as the only remaining elder, was tasked

with finding a new pastor for the church. With the help of the Lord and a team from the church, he was able to do that, and we are looking forward to the arrival of the new pastor in the next couple of months. We are excited to be part of the growth and many positive changes taking place there.

We had yet another great vacation in August in Lake City, Colorado, the tiny place in the San Juan Mountains where we have been vacationing every year for decades. We did some ATVing, fishing and porch sitting.

We have been blessed to spend a lot of time at our mountain home near Grand Lake, Colorado. We have enjoyed an abundance of wildlife and spending time with Amanda and Jordon, who have a mountain home right next door. The area continues to recover from the East Troublesome Fire, which three years ago ran through the area but thankfully spared our property and the town. Wildflowers were in abundance in the burn areas throughout the summer months, and in the autumn, much of the burn scar lit up yellow with the changing foliage of new aspen growth. We enjoyed fishing in the next valley in an area surrounded by the burn scar but which itself did not burn. The creek that runs through that area is teeming with trout, and we caught a bunch of fish there over the summer (we put them all back). We very much look forward to revisiting this area next summer and catching some more!

As we move through the Advent season in anticipation of the celebration of our Savior's birth, we are reminded that Jesus came to bring salvation, peace and good will. If your world, like that of so many, has been anything but peaceful, look to Him. You can have this peace and assurance of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. It is our prayer as we celebrate the Savior's birth that you know Him and His peace! May you and yours have a blessed Christmas!

Cris & Phyllis Alexander  
(and Spicy, too!)



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