

Merry Christmas!

We are delighted to be celebrating Christmas and hope you are too. We will have several of our children and grandchildren here, which is always a hoot! Then we will head to Wisconsin to celebrate with that branch of the clan and some of the Illinois folks. It doesn't seem possible that Christmas is here already, where did this year go?

We had a sweet Thanksgiving with our Colorado kids and grandkids. What a joy to see all of our grandchildren growing in their knowledge of God, His Son, and His Word. Our five-year-old grandson Mason trusted Christ as His Savior this year, woohoo!! There is no greater thrill for us. In these coming times, it will be extremely important for kids to know what they believe and why. We love the truth of God's Word and the powerful impact it can have on children.

Our clan hasn't moved much this year:

Joy and Tom (married 15 years), Julia (14), Emily (11), Sarah (8), Andrew (5) Edgerton, WI. Julia is scheduled for back surgery on March 11, 2024, to fuse her upper and lower spine to help with her severe scoliosis.

Jon and Kara (married 12 years), Liberty (8), Mason (5), Nolan (3), Oliver (11 months) Castle Rock, CO. Nolan had a medical emergency involving his body destroying his red blood cells in late October/early November. Praise the Lord Jon and Kara acted quickly, and God put them in a place where he was diagnosed and treated and is fully recovered.



Most of our clan

Jenna: Chicago, IL, still living the dream as an international event planner.

Jaella and Chad (married 9 years), Piper (3), Strider (16 months), Wheaton, IL, still on staff at Wheaton College and loving it!

Jillian and Karsten (married 4 years) Chicago, IL, working and going to school (Jillian will be done in May).

We have had a good year although it has been hard at times. We aren't getting any younger, you know. We have visited many Awana Clubs and are excited for the new clubs that started as well as the veteran clubs that are thriving, some with 20 kids or less and others with hundreds of kids. God continues to emphasize to us how critically short we are on time till He comes again.

As you celebrate this year, remember that there is no Christmas without Christ. Although the world wants the holiday without the Christ, wants morals and ethics without God's Word, and wants to believe that there is more than one way to get to heaven. Truth seems to be a thing of the past, let's not let it be so. His Word endures forever! Matthew 24:35

Have a Merry Christmas and a blessed 2024!

With much love,

Joe & Jill

