



# Christmas 2001 Greetings From The Lahns

Christmas again! It seems like only yesterday we were going through this process of wishing you the best of the season. We hope that this greeting finds you in good health and that each of you has been able to spend some time this holiday season reflecting on God's blessings in your lives.

The year started off with a wonderful family trip to Florida. Sixteen days of family time (6 of them in a car!!), lots of fun at Disney World and Sea World, seeing a space shuttle launch and then visiting with Grant (Nancy's brother), Jane, and Kristen in Atlanta, meant a whirlwind two weeks, but it was a great time together as a family.



Summer saw us again with the usual busy-ness with the cottage, church Day Camp activities, and Arts Adventure Camp (where Jordan helped this year as a leader). We even packed in another trip to the States to go to "Kingdom Bound", a 4-day Christian Music Festival at Six Flags, Darien Lake, NY. Great music, in a great Christian Family atmosphere and a great time to bond with the kids as we listened to their favourite Christian musicians (most of which are ours as well). In the fall, Nancy and Murray got away for a "Date Weekend" in St. Jacobs while the kids got to spend the weekend with their cousins in Woodstock. Nancy & Murray had the exhilarating experience of being childless for the weekend, while Brenda and David had the exhilarating experience of having six kids in the house!

Extended family news..... We've had the joy of adding some new twigs to the family tree in 2001. Steve (Nancy's brother) & Dorothy welcomed baby Jonelle into their family in May, and Randy (Murray's brother) & Kim were blessed with baby Hanna in October. Murray's Mom has proven that not even a ruptured appendix in July could distract her from her active life for long! Nancy's parents continue in good health and also continue to redefine "retirement" as "the time when the Lord can use you most in ministry to other!"

## The Church

Our church continues to be a great blessing to us. This year Murray had the honour of being elected to the Board of Elders. Nancy and Murray continue to lead worship through music both on Sunday mornings and at our annual Renewal Conference.

We've been attending Alpha again with some friends and I think as a result we will once again be participating in a small group ministry in the Spring.

As our Missions Project this year Club House took on the cause of the victims of the Sept 11th attacks, and have worked on our Christmas Gift Bags once again. Nancy took the lead in organizing, and of course has spent much time sewing and packaging.



## Jordan

This has been a rather eventful year for me. I had fun in Florida. I did well in Grade 8, graduating with the Academic Medal, the Geography Award (I was only allowed to get one subject award!) and the Academic Award. I also received the Buchan B, a patch you earn for joining clubs and groups. I was a member of the yearbook committee, and helped set the book up, write articles for it, print it off, and bind it all together.



Jordan with graduation awards and Yoda party balloon

I had lots of fun at the cottage after the rush of school. Later, I helped out with the Kindergarten class at our church's Summer Adventure Day Camp and also the Arts Adventure Camp, and had lots of fun. My friend Sam was a leader this year, too, and we had lots of fun running a *Mega Game* team together. After four weeks of getting up early, I was pretty much exhausted. I gladly welcomed the return to the cottage.

I am now a Grade 9 student in Stephen Leacock Collegiate. This semester, I have only 4 subjects: Science, Geography, English, and Integrated Technology (computer stuff). I am enjoying my classes, and my teachers are enjoying me (or so they say!)

I'm continuing my interest in Star Wars (i.e. reading the books, collecting the cards, playing the games, etc.), but I'm currently reading the Lord of the Rings trilogy (in preparation for the movie!).





## Bethany

Hi there! This year I'm in Senior Kindergarten and learning how to read and write. Grandma Clarke even found an old "Dick and Jane" Reader that Mommy used to read that I love to read by myself now.

During the summer I played T-Ball. It was lots of fun and the best part was that nobody lost – ever!! We went to see my favourite singer this summer – Rebecca St. James. I love to sing along to her songs (and everything else) in the car, even if I don't know the words. My friend, Kristy and I are going to ballet.

My favourite things right now, are the kitties! I just love them and the only time they get a rest is when I go to bed, and when I'm at school.

It's been a great year!



## The Animals

With all the great things that happened this year, there was one very sad moment in our family. After 17 years, we said goodbye to our dearly beloved cat, Spooky. However, just a few days ago we adopted two Himalayan kittens – Kneesaa and Teebo (named after Star Wars characters, or course). Woodchip (our rabbit) and Star (our hamster) have welcomed them into our family, and the kids are excited indeed!!



## Daniel



Daniel with his Baseball Coach

This year I played my first Summer sport–Baseball! My team came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the whole league. My teacher is Mrs. O'Bright again. I had her last year too. So far I am enjoying Grade 3, but it is hard work.

I have read all the Jurassic Park 3 books, and I am reading the Animorphs series. I collect Jedi Knights Cards. I am also interested in the Lord of the Rings, even though I haven't read the books. I am really interested in Star Wars, and I love playing with LEGO.

When I play on the computer, I like to go to [www.neopets.com](http://www.neopets.com). It is a lot of fun.

I like to draw pictures and write stories, which I take to school to show my friends and teacher. I love to play with my friends: P.J., Stephen, Peter and Kate.

## Timothy

This year was pretty exciting. I decided to take up skateboarding in September. I can already ollie (jump), 180, manual and I can almost nose-stall. No idea what I was talking about? Ok.

I got all A's on my report card. I haven't started drum lessons yet, but I will soon. I've grown 5 cm since the beginning of the year. I was 160 cm (63") in January and I am 165 (65") now!

I got a new hamster after I came home from Florida. Her name is Star. She's dark orange all over. My floor hockey team at school won the championship and I put a dodgeball team together.



My church youth group went to Muskoka Woods for the weekend. We had some seminars about "Heros." We had 5 hours to skateboard, rollerblade, pay frisbee golf, soccer, basketball and more. My schools went to Kearney Outdoor Education Centre. We learned about wildlife and we saw deer, wolves, moose and birds. I had so much fun!!!

It's been a pretty fun year, eh?



Following the days of September 11th, fear and a longing for peace are commonly expressed themes. In response, most are drawing closer to family and friends, and many are re-examining the promises of Jesus, the Prince of Peace:

*In Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble.  
But take heart! I have overcome the world.*

May the Lord bless you with His peace this Christmas and in the days to come.

Murray + Mary Jordan Tim Daniel Bethany

