



Christmas Greetings 2011 From the Lahns

As 2011 draws to a close, it's a time to reflect on the year that has passed. We look forward to receiving your greetings, and hearing about the blessings and also, for many of you, the challenges that have been yours this year.

For us, the year began in deep heartache as Nancy's dear sister, Brenda, passed away suddenly in early January. The loss of one so precious to us all has impacted our family and extended family profoundly, and we have felt her absence so keenly at every event throughout the year. Yet through it all, Christ has sustained and strengthened us through His unshakable promises, and the care of loving friends.

At the same time, our church went through a major upheaval and while we were feeling the need to stay to see things through, by the summer it became clear to us all that, after 27 years at Good Shepherd, God was calling us elsewhere, so this Fall we have been prayerfully seeking a new church home.

The highlight of the year was the celebration of Jordan's wedding (July 9th) to Rachel. The day was a wonderful occasion with the weather, the ceremony, the food and the reception being absolutely perfect! We could not have asked for a better day, or a better wife for Jordan! Of course, since heading back up North to Thunder Bay while Rachel finishes her studies at Lakehead we haven't seen much of them except via video-conference on Skype but we did get a brief visit in November when they returned for a weekend for Rachel's grandparents' 50th Anniversary.

As many of you know, Nancy's Dad in London has been battling chronic leukemia and has undergone two courses of chemo and also radiation this year. This fall, Nancy spent a lot of time with her parents when her Dad was hospitalized with a severe viral infection, but here's the GOOD news—since then Dad has astounded his doctors by not only recovering from the virus, but also showing amazing improvement in his blood test results. If anyone says God doesn't answer prayer, we beg to differ!!

Murray continues to work as a computer consultant for Clockwork, and Nancy has kept very busy with her visiting, her home business and her volunteer prenatal counselling at the Pregnancy Care Centre.

Let's let our kids put in their two cents worth...



Jordan and Rachel



This has certainly been a very busy and eventful year for me. I finished my Teacher's Certification program at Lakehead University, which means I am now officially certified to mould the minds of all of your children (at least from Kindergarten to Grade 6). After that, I came back to Toronto in June to get ready for my wedding to the beautiful Rachel Maguire. Thankfully, all of the planning we did last year in August and December made the last few months go very smoothly, and the day itself went off without a problem. It was a beautiful day full of family and friends, and I'm extremely grateful to everyone who was able to be there celebrating with us. Rachel and I have since moved back into our apartment here in Thunder Bay, where she is finishing her Gerontology degree at Lakehead while I continue in my position at Chapters as a Head Cashier. Next year will hopefully bring many more new changes as I seek out my first teaching job, wherever that may be!





Bethany

Wow! 2011 is almost over! It has been a crazy year. There have been some downs but a lot of ups also! This summer I spent a lot of time at cottages where I went cliff jumping from the rocks. I grew closer with a lot of my friends and met a lot of cool people.

The highlight of 2011 would definitely be the concert that I performed in with my brothers, featuring "To Tell"

after us! It was a BLAST! I also performed recently, where I got to play my guitar, at a friend's CD release party! It was a great turn out for both shows.



This school year started out really busy, I must admit. But I wouldn't change it for anything. Recently my team just finished 2nd in basketball, and I just made the volleyball team. I'm on swim team, and this year I made the worship team. It's a blast! I love doing it and the team building is super fun! In drama, we are about to perform our Christmas play so we are all running around like crazy designing our set and building. It should be a really good play and I'm very excited about it!

I hope 2012 will bring many blessings to everyone—that is if the world doesn't end.

Tim



Hey everybody, it's been another year, and a super crazy one at that, so I'll get right to it. This year is the last year of my undergraduate degree in Human Biology, so I've been working on the next step in my education lately. I've applied to Chiropractic College, and I have an interview with the school in the new year, so with any luck I'll be training to be a chiropractor next fall!

I've been spending a lot of time writing and recording songs with my band, Every Spare Second, this year, which has been a lot of fun! We've had three gigs so far, one of which we opened for a hot new band called To Tell, which was a crazy experience. I'm hoping to finish off the first CD sometime this summer, but much needs to be done before that point. If you haven't heard us yet, check us out at www.facebook.com/everysparesecond (shameless plug two years in a row!).

As you may recall from last year, Jordan and I share the same great taste in women—at least women named Rachel! Mine graduated this year and is working full time in Interior Design.

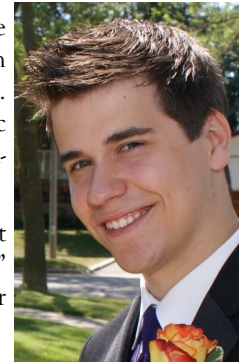
Daniel

Since my graduation from high school last year, I've started an internship at a commercial editing company in downtown Toronto that takes up almost all of my time. Which means less time for everyone's favorite comic (JohnnyAndLandie.com), less time for my amazing girlfriend, and... well, pretty much less time for everything.

In case you haven't heard, I've let the family down by not dating a "Rachel". Yes, my girl-friend's name is "Jessica" not "Rachel". Jessica and I have been together for 1 year and 9 months after meeting at Kingdom Bound in 2009.

Although I have less time for Johnny and Landie comics, I still put in the hours and publish a comic every week... well, almost every week. When my partner in crime and I aren't writing and drawing comics, we're sometimes performing our rap at various venues.

Hopefully after my internship has ended in February, I will have time to pursue the things I love with more passion. Come the new year, expect more comics, more rap, and more sleep from my side of the world, and hopefully I'll be at University in the Film and Television Studies program.



If 2011 has taught us anything it is this—

"Sometimes God puts us in situations that are too much for us to teach us that nothing is too much for Him." (Woodrow Kroll)

When you think about it, Christmas is all about the "too much" — that is, the "impossible" — becoming reality. The omnipotent God of the Universe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger...

Is it too much, then, for us to trust Him with our lives in 2012?

With love and blessings, The Lahns



Misty, Mocha & Jazz

