



Christmas Greetings 2013 From the Lahns

Wow! It's Christmas again? Another year has swept by, and what a year it's been! The Lahn household has been very busy again this year with work and school and changes. When we last checked in we'd been going to our new church for about a year. Now after two years, it feels like we've always been there. Murray (as well as Tim and Bethany) are involved in the music ministry and Nancy's been helping with a grief group and our Life Group. We've created so many new friends and relationships, but we so enjoy getting together with "old" friends and receiving your Christmas cards and letters to keep up with what's been going on in your lives as well.



Last fall we welcomed Nancy's Mom into our home for a brief stay after she battled the loneliness of losing Nancy's Dad to cancer in April 2012. Having her around was such a joy, but while we'd intended it to be a short-term 'visit' it became apparent in the new year, that it was time for her to make a transition into a retirement facility, and so in April 2013 we moved Mom from London and into Shepherd Village, only 5 minutes from our home, and sold her home in London. It's been a good transition for her and it means that Nancy can stay close in keeping up with her care. Despite some memory challenges, Mom enjoys excellent health and has been involved in playing piano regularly at the Village as well as the many other activities.



After moving back from Thunder Bay in the 2012, Jordan and Rachel were able to move into their own apartment in the summertime. Jordan continues to look for work in teaching and works currently at Chapters. Rachel was able to get a full time job in a Nursing Home in Toronto working with Alzheimer's patients. (We'll let the rest of the kids tell their own stories elsewhere in this letter.)

While Murray's work has been crazy busy recently it looks it will start to slow down in the New Year. This project is expected to last for another 6 months or so. Nancy's been busy trying to build her business back up after a couple years of needful neglect. New packaging, new websites and new customers have been the order of the day, and it appears that things are once again picking up following the downturn of a few years back.

Summer saw the usual activities of Kingdom Bound and the cottage, and this year, as the kids were all busy with their own lives, Murray and Nancy were able to spend nearly a week at the cottage by themselves, enjoying the wonderful quiet of that place. With everyone now driving it's easier to "run off", but often hard to find a car to do so in :)

We hope that 2013 has been good to you and your loved ones. We know some have experienced pain and loneliness over this past year and we pray that God, our Comforter, will wrap His arms around you, especially at this time of year, and into 2014.

Tim

Merry Christmas to all my friends and family! It's been yet another crazy year for me, which probably doesn't come as a surprise for anyone. I'm now working my way through my second year (of four) at the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College. I did well in first year, and I'm off to a good start this year as well. The workload is heavier than ever, but I'll get through it! I also decided to enroll in an Advanced Standing massage therapy course over the summer that they offer for Chiropractic students. It'll only take me a few months, and I'll be a licensed RMT after I write the board exams, which is a great opportunity for me!



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Daniel



It's been a busy year for me. Now that I'm into my second year in Film Studies at Ryerson University I've been busy balancing my time between making movies and working at Faith Family Books.

I had a great summer, and spent two weeks on a mission trip to Bathurst, New Brunswick. We put on a Vacation Bible School for the kids there and I got to be the local knight - Sir Brodious Bronson Billingsley III, The Dragon Slayer.

This September I finished up my year serving at Agincourt Baptist Church as the worship leader. Now I've rejoined my family at The Bridge, because they missed me too much - I assume...

There are lots of exciting things coming up with school and personal projects, including a potential internship in the summer, please keep me in your prayers.

Tim (cont'd)

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Other than school, I still enjoy making music on the side. There isn't as much time to practice these days, but I still enjoy playing guitar and bass and church from time to time. During the summer, I spent a few days a week doing an internship at a clinic in Scarborough, where I essentially worked as a physical therapy assistant. It was a great learning experience, and a lot of fun!

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas, and a happy New Year!

Bethany

Hey everyone! This past year has been pretty incredible. I've been keeping up with my sports: Basketball, Volleyball, and Swimming. Last year I was MVP for our volleyball and this year I was top scorer for our basketball team!

A constant blessing in my life would definitely be the two fantastic churches I've been attending. On Sundays and most Wednesdays I attend The Bridge up in Markham. Then on Fridays I attend the youth group at Agincourt Pentecostal Church. I love them both and grow in different ways with each group. I have been challenged by many people to widen my leadership abilities through different leadership groups as well as leading worship at both youth groups.

This September I started my Senior year at North Toronto Christian School! It has been pretty great so far. I was able to compete in a business problems solving club called Deca at Regionals and qualify for Provincials! It was a fun new experience.

When considering careers, at the beginning of 2013 I wanted to become a Physiotherapist. Then, through God's timing and people he put in my life he made it evident that the path I should go down was Christian Counseling.

Merry Christmas everyone!



When Jesus was born into this world over 2000 years ago, there was no room for Him in the inn. Have we made room for Him in our hearts? It is so easy to become distracted by the good things of this season that we can become distracted from the BEST thing - the worship of Jesus, Emmanuel - God with us.

May this prayer by John Stuart be our prayer this Christmas:

Lord Jesus, as we advance into another season of food, festivities, fables, and films, which will strain our finances, remind us that faith in You and true fellowship with God are the most important parts of Christmas. Keep us from burdening our lives and our loved ones with trinkets and tinsel, delusions and decorations that have no everlasting value. Remind us that You are the heart of our holidays and the centre of our celebrations. In Your holy name, we pray. Amen.

Wishing you and your family a blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!

