

Merry Christmas 2022 from The Lahns



It's hard to believe that 2022 is fast approaching its end, and for the most part, it appears that life is gradually returning to "normal" with less masks, less restrictions, and more gatherings.

We started 2022 with 7 grandkids, and in February we welcomed Lincoln Sawyer Lahn, another beautiful son for Daniel and Jess, and a brother for Landon (coming up 4 in March) and Isla (who turned 2 in September).



Daniel started a new job with a "Specialized / Precision Demolition" company and has developed many new skills (and muscles!) on all kinds of machinery and equipment. Jess is a stellar mother-of-three and also has a photography business. Landon is the family bookworm and joke-teller. Isla loves to help Mommy with cooking

and cleaning and *adores* caring for her little brother. In return, Lincoln gives Isla his biggest belly laughs, and he is constantly wanting to be on the move.

The arrival of dear little Lincoln means that our "grandchild tally" is currently tied at 4 grand-sons and 4 grand-daughters!

But wait! We have a tie-breaker in our midst! Bethany and Ty are expecting their 2nd child in mid-April and we just recently found out that it's going to be... *a girl!*... and this means that they will be the first of our kids to have two of the same sex in a row!!! Josephine is now 17 months old and has the most vivid imagination and running monologue as she plays with her toys. Her favourite toy right now is a baby doll—practising up for being a big sister, no doubt!



Bethany has been working part-time as a receptionist at a dental clinic in Brantford and, praise God, has had no MS symptoms again for another year! Ty has recently started working in the sales area for a cooking oil recycling company based out of nearby Paris, ON.



For Jordan and Rachel, 2022 has also brought a few changes. Since he began his teaching career, Jordan has worked exclusively with autistic children—very challenging and exhausting work. He decided to make the change to a "regular" classroom, and was given a Grade 1-2 split just minutes away from their home in Simcoe. However, even for this highly gifted teacher, this situation has its own stressors, as students

have come to this class with a wide range of abilities and challenges, due to the educational disruption imposed by the pandemic. In the meantime, Rachel is continuing to enjoy work in the dental office in Simcoe, now with increased responsibilities. Four-year-old Melody has just started Junior Kindergarten but her teacher has put her in the Senior Kindergarten group for many activities including sight word and spelling. Oscar (coming up on 3yo in April) is enrolled in DayCare at a French immersion school. His current obsession is *Spiderman*! He wants to wear a Spiderman shirt at all times—PJ's or sweater—and his parents have to strategically swap them out so they can wash them!



For Tim and Rachel it's been an exciting year as well! Tim, who has been working as a chiropractor in Barrie was offered the opportunity to purchase the practice where he works. Tim is doing a wonderful job of being his own boss, and having "fun" hiring some new staff, renegotiating some current staff's contracts, and learning about running his own business. In

the meantime, Rachel has returned to work where she excels as an Interior Designer, but is able to work from home 2 days a week. For Aaron (turning 2 in March) life revolves around his obsession with cars, as well as trying to figure out the crazy imagination of his big sister Arya (4yo). Arya's flights of fancy often involve "pretend school" (she loves JK), or adventures with her favourite stuffed toys "Big Puppy" and "Little Puppy".



For Murray and Nancy it continues to be a "normal" sort of year.

Murray continues to work for Deloitte (since being absorbed in August 2021) but has been able to continue to work from home before, during, and after all the lockdowns. Outside of work, he is involved in the planning of the Men's Ministry events at church where he often leads worship. He and Nancy are also involved in a ministry once a month at a local group home.

Nancy continues to work at Shepherd Village in the Spiritual Life department where she is involved in preparing and leading various Bible Studies for the residents and one-to-one visits with them. This works out wonderfully, as she can visit her Mum on a regular basis after work and help her with dinner.

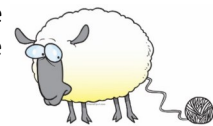


Speaking of Nancy's Mum, Trudie celebrated her 98th birthday in November, and we were able to have a small party for her in the Shepherd Village Café. Present were Steve, and his fiancée Carolyn, as well as Bethany & Ty and Josie, and Shawna & Adam, Sienna and Naomi from Woodstock. We were even able to include Grant & Jane in Atlanta through the magic of a video call.

And of course, like always, the pets are doing wonderfully. Chloe, our 7 year old Border Collie is continuing to enjoy running and playing ball in the yard (whenever Dad will get out of his office and play!).



And Gizmo and Trinket (our 3-year-old Balinese cats) continue to alternate between curling up together blissfully, and tearing around the house. They love to put their agility on display by leaping to the highest points in the house, climbing the Christmas tree, and stealing the sheep from the manger scene.



As we approach this Christmas season, may we never be too busy to ponder this amazing truth...

"In the fullness of time" the God of all eternity, might, and power, shrank to the size of a small Son of Man, born under the least inviting roof in Bethlehem. He limited Himself to the loveliest of all earth's languages—the language of a newborn baby's cry.

"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth."

May Emmanuel—God with us—fill your hearts this Christmas.