

# *Christmas Greetings from Chic & Nancy Shaver*

## *December 2019*

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Dear Friends and Loved Ones,

### *It Happened in Bethlehem*

Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem. As a result, an angel announced, "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).

This past October, I was given the privilege of preaching in Bethlehem, PA. People there acknowledged Jesus as Savior and Lord.

So, for the Bethlehem in Palestine and the Bethlehem in Pennsylvania and for all who read this letter, our wish for you is:

*O Holy Child of Bethlehem  
Descend on us we pray  
Cast out our sin and enter in  
Be born in us today*

Our son Paul, after five cancer surgeries, including one that removed his voice box, has now been diagnosed with a cancer on his esophagus. He is taking the drug Keytruda, and surgery is not an option. He continues nighttime truck driving, delivering food to Kroger grocery stores in eight states. He was invited again to Orlando in June to referee the international high school volleyball tournament. Twenty-four thousand students participated, and Paul refereed 28 games with his electric whistle. In October, I spent a night with him on my drive to a revival. I anointed him with oil and prayed over him with his latest cancer diagnosis. The next day, it seemed to me the Lord said, "His case is in my hands." In his previous cancer surgery (voice box removal), the family prayed God would use the situation to bring glory to Himself. I've now told his story of overcoming with the peace of God in 25 different churches, and, early in the year, Paul gave testimony to 2,200 in a Baptist church in South Carolina. Paul is joking, smiling, happy and committed to Jesus.

Nancy is in her eighth year of Alzheimer's. She sang for Jesus in Riverdale, Georgia, and the people said, "more, more." She regularly sings in Disciples class, in the First Church choir, and will be singing in the Christmas concert on December 8. She is sweet and joyful. One night as we were holding hands, she said, "I think I'm the happiest I've ever been, and I love you more than ever." Wow!

Daughter Rachel's husband, Kim, went to be with the Lord on September 8, just five days after observing their 15<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Kim fought a great battle with cancer and packed more happy events into his last year of life than you can imagine. In a conversation with me several weeks before his passing, he told me, "The Lord and I have been having a lot of deep conversations. I feel as close to the Lord as I've ever felt." His funeral service was uplifting, challenging, and victorious.

Rachel was awesome in caring for him. His final days were in the home. Rachel is living in Raymore, MO, and continues as a senior commercial trainer at Teva (a pharmaceutical company). She has served with them over 30 years and—for a second time—won the president's award this year. Teva is moving their Kansas City offices to New Jersey. As a result, Rachel will complete her work with them in February of 2020.

Kim and Rachel's son Kasey, wife Jessica, and children Kaiya and Kayden moved to Kansas City, KS, this year. They were a great blessing to Kim this past year.

Daughter Miriam began her 15<sup>th</sup> year at "Designers Only" which sells to high-end designers. Miriam and Charlie live in the Kansas City area, and Charlie continues as a freight broker for trucking companies. Their daughter, Patti, husband Branden, and grandchildren, Layla and Lucas, live in Baldwin, KS. Stepson Lenny Landrum lives in Olathe, KS. His children are Evan and Kaylee.

Paul's family lives in Muncie, IN. Wife Lori continues her busy schedule with school and sports activities with their kids and grandkids. Cabron, 17, attends a Christian school in Anderson and is playing some outstanding soccer. Carly, 20, continues as a dental assistant. Cambry and husband Jonathan are enjoying their rehabbed house in Middletown, IN, and are expecting their first child in December. Daughter Chelsy and husband Chad Ray and children Ckinley, Cayson, Callan, and Crossten live in Yorktown, IN. All of Paul's family are active in Nazarene or Baptist churches.

Twenty family members vacationed at our favorite spot, Treasure Island, FL, in June. While there, Nancy and I celebrated our 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

I have preached or taught in 17 US cities from Rockville, MD, to Lincoln City, OR. This includes 17 revivals, two district-sponsored seminars on witnessing, and 13 local church seminars. I regularly teach Disciples class at First Church of the Nazarene when I am in town. The Foundry Publishing reports that Basic Bible Studies in its several English forms has passed ¾ of a million copies this year. In February, Nancy and I were honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award

by the Church of the Nazarene for our evangelistic service. This occurred at the M19 conference before 3000-4000 clergy and leaders.

Based on what I believe is the leading of the Lord, 2020 will be my last year to preach revivals across our country. On January 5, 2020, I will lead my last class as regular teacher of Disciples class at First Church. It will be the 45<sup>th</sup> year since we started the class (with six people) and also my 85<sup>th</sup> birthday.

We are active at First Church of the Nazarene, Kansas City. The Chic Shaver Center for Evangelism continues providing resources for Christian leaders and scholarships for Nazarene Seminary and other Christian schools. Thank you for many great kindnesses shown to us this year. Thank you for your prayers. May Jesus Christ bless you richly this Christmas.

Love,  
Chic and Nancy Shaver

## Merry Christmas from Nancy Shaver



When Jesus came to town so many years ago,  
He lifted up this precious world, the Bible tells us so.  
I heard Him knocking at my door and He asked to come in.  
He came with all His sunshine love and took away my sin.  
He asked me to forgive all those who had caused me pain,  
Then gently washed my fear-filled heart like softly falling rain.  
He then began to work on me to change my point of view.  
He asked me then to follow Him and from Him take my cue.  
So, with the sick, I found myself learning how to care,  
I saw how life could drain away and really was not fair.  
Yet if we love and nurture, healing can take place,  
And even in those hard times we catch a glimpse of grace.  
In 1959 it was, a handsome man He sent,  
He said if I would marry him, he would pay the rent.  
So it was that we began our life in ministry,  
And life was lived at rapid pace for Chic is like a bee.  
Blessings came as the years went by, blessings as in three.  
Rachel first, then came Paul, and then Miss Miriam Llore.  
Chic, a man of God who explains that love so fully,  
Has always taught and preached the Word, and never was it dully.  
He travels the world knocking on doors and asks to be let in,  
So he can bring you sunshine love and freedom from your sin.  
Do you ever think or reminisce this gift is for the asking?  
For life is full and so much fun when in His love you're basking.  
God's love brings change, so you rearrange all those things that are not working,  
And put into place the values of life and all that you've been shirking.  
These words come to you because this time each year, we celebrate the season.  
God's love came down at Christmas time and love is still the reason.  
Has Jesus come to your door and has He knocked so gently?  
Perhaps He came with lots of noise and asked you quite intently.  
Yes, He comes to the doors of life and asks us for adventure.  
Would you like to go here, would you like to go there, wherever would you venture?  
We take the same sweet story told so long ago,  
How love came down at Christmas time, the Bible tells us so.