

Christmas Greeting from Chic and Nancy Shaver
December 2020

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In the light of worldwide COVID-19 epidemic, terrible internal strife in our nation, a bruising presidential election, I am casting a vote for peace, salvation, and light. Or in the words of the aged and devout Simeon who held the baby Jesus in his arms:

Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel (Luke 2: 29-32, NIV).

On by inserting a line in the famous poem by Edwin Markham, I find peace:

Faith looks back and says,
 "Christ died for me."
 Above and cries,
 "He lives for me"
Within and proclaims Christ dwells in me
 Forward and whispers,
 "He comes for me."

As many of you know, our son Paul has had five major cancer surgeries, including removal of his voice box. After discovery of cancer on his esophagus and in his lungs last year, the drug Keytruda has produce disappearance or shrinking of the cancers. Thank God. A cancer on his hip is still an issue.

He continues his nighttime truck driving to deliver to Kroger grocery stores in eight states and volleyball refereeing. In the beginning of his cancer surgery on the voice box, Paul and his family prayed God would get story out of it. I have now told his story in 28 different churches resulting in comfort, peace and hope for people and glory to God. Paul is happy and joyous and walking with Jesus.

Nancy is in her ninth year of Alzheimers. She sang for Jesus in Great Falls, MT, Riverton, WY and Harrisonville, MO. She sings in Disciples Class and Choir at First Church of the Nazarene where we attend regularly. She is rejoicing in the Lord and has repeatedly told me this year, "You take such good care of me." While in Montana for revival, we took three wonderful days in Yellowstone National Park. We were a part of crowd of 300-400 waiting for the eruption of Old Faithful. As the eruption died down, Nancy broke out in a strong voice with "God Bless America." At the end, the crowd applauded.

Daughter Rachel continue living in Raymore, MO and has made house improvements this year. After 31 year of service with Teva (a pharmaceutical company) Rachel wrapped up her career with this wonderful company in November, in order to stay in the KC area. The company is moving to N.J. She regularly does our grocery shopping for us due to Covid19. Rachel keeps regular contact with Kim's son Kasey, wife Jessica and children Kaiya and Kayden. Rachel's husband Kim had passed away in September 2019. Kasey's family lives in Kansas City, KS.

Daughter Miriam's company "Designer Only" was sold to "Design and Detail" and Miriam moved over to the new company where she will be a sales associate in furniture. This will be her 16th year in this business. Charlie and Miriam live in the Kansas City area and Charlie is a freight broker for trucking companies. Their daughter Patti, husband Branden, and children Layla and Lucas moved to a brand new home in Baldwin, KS this year.

Paul's family lives in Muncie, IN. Wife Lori keeps busy with children and grandchildren Cabron 18, is a senior in a Christian School in Anderson, and drives his own truck. Carly 21 works a dental assistant. In September, she married her long-time boyfriend, Devin Wittkamper. Cambry and husband Jonathan live in Muncie and welcomed Ckyla Elise into their home last December. Daughter Chelsy and husband Chad Ray and children Ckinley, Cayson, Callan and Crossten sold their home in Yorktown and bought a home in Losantville, 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. We celebrated our 61st anniversary there. We are having more contact with our nephew Ron Prager, including at Treasure Island.

I have preached and taught in 12 U.S. cities from Great Falls, MT to Venice FL, this year. Our Montana preaching also gave three wonderful days in Yellowstone National Park. We saw so much from Old Faithful to buffalo. On January 5, I retired from teaching Disciples Class after 45 years.

I have completed writing 365 devotionals for a devotional book emphasizing holiness is understandable language. My long hand pages are now being typed. Basic Bible Studies has now sold over 754,000 in English.

Basic Bible Studies for Spirit Filled and Sanctified Life is now being translated to the ten main languages where the Church of the Nazarene ministers.

We are active at First Church of the Nazarene, Kansas City. The Chic Shaver Center for Evangelism continues providing resources for Christian leaders and Nazarene Seminary and other Christian schools. Dr. Scott Rainey has now joined me as Co-Executive Director. Joy Parke has completed an outstanding service as Managing Director. Margo Manning became new Managing Director in September.

Daughter Rachel and Miriam have given us tremendous help this year. Thanks to a host of others who have shown us great kindness this year. Thank you for prayers and financial support of the Evangelism Center. May the peace of Jesus Christ be present with you at Christmas and in the coming year.

Just before we finished completing this newsletter on November 13, I (Chic) was diagnosed with Covid. But later on, the 13th I had remarkable improvement.

Love, Chic and Nancy Shaver

*Merry Christmas from High Drive
(Repeat of Nancy's Christmas Letter of 2014)*

... where we practice grace filled living on a Higher Road, the road less traveled.

I was remembering when I first encountered God at the age of 12 in a Baptist Church in Wathena, Kansas, where my mom and I moved to that summer. The people made us welcome and we felt so cared for and accepted we stayed. As they were singing on a Sunday evening a song about Jesus, I opened my heart and asked him in, and all of a sudden a warm presence filled me, along with peace and my fears were gone and trust took their place.

After 55 years, Chic is still the love of my life. We have been at KC First Nazarene for 40 years now and God still keeps life exciting. We are so blessed to have our two beautiful daughters here in town, and our son and his beautiful family with our four grandchildren and three great grandchildren in Indiana. We see our girls reach out to those who are searching for something more and they are little evangelists at work. God uses all of our children to reach out to others. They hold the light of hope and the gift of eternity. God promised never to leave us or forsake us and he never has. How did you handle your son's cancer, Nancy? With my broken heart I used the words of a song which became my prayer and still is every day, With God in control.

Bow the knee

There are moments on our journey following the Lord

Where God illumines every step we take. There are times where circumstances make perfect sense to us as we try to understand each move, He makes. When the path grows dim and our questions have no answers, turn to him.

Bow the knee, trust the heart of your Father when the answer goes beyond what you can see. Bow the knee, lift your eyes towards heaven and believe the one who holds eternity. And when you don't understand the purpose of his plan in the presence of the King, bow the knee.

There are days when clouds surround us, and the rain begins to fall, the cold and lonely winds won't cease to blow. And there seems to be no reason for suffering we feel; we are tempted to believe God does not know. When the storms arise, don't forget we live by faith and not by sight.

- Chris **Machem** And Mike Harland

My life verse still keeps me in the fold.

“And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today, nor our worries about tomorrow, not even this power of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below, indeed nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. “Romans 8:38

With Love, Nancy Shaver