

BE ONE TOGETHER

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News from the Tyas family
Serving in WA among the Hispanic community
DECEMBER 2020

From the Notes of Ed and Gerry...

Dear friends and family,

We like to think of the word **HOPE**. Many things have been stripped away this year but our ultimate **HOPE** is in a baby that came one night, the birth that we are celebrating this month. How wonderful to celebrate the birth of one that has come for all men....the Lord Jesus Christ.



This month we celebrated as we were involved in Birthday Parties for Jesus through CEF, and also gift distribution to parents through the food bank where I (Gerry) volunteer who were not able to afford anything for their children this year. The looks of relief and gratitude were precious!

The visiting that was normally done during the year is starting to take off with a new plan. VIDEO COFFEE CHATS in which we visit and have coffee over a video chat. This is a one on one ministry and can develop into a Bible Study and encouragement. It has been slow in getting going but is catching on. Porch drop offs are used to drop off things that are needed such as Bible Study books.

Speaking of porch drop offs.

There is one more project that needs to be done. Tamales need to be made as porch drop offs to some of our Hispanic friends. That's right...I (Gerry) have been learning to make tamales during the pandemic. Now I am ready to take them to people who make them all the time. We think we will put an olive in each one to represent the baby Jesus who has come for us.

We wish you a special Christmas this year and a New Year filled with trust in Him!

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CHRISTMAS Letter 2020 Tyas Family Happenings

We never know at the beginning of a year what will come to pass...
Sure did get fooled this year!



Who would have thought we'd get to experience something our ancestors experienced – quarantines, shortages of things (flour and toilet paper and baking powder and canning lids, Carharts - thankfully only for a short while). But for us personally, God has provided. Ed's work hardly skipped a beat, William was already working remotely, Douglas was able to finish his Bachelor's degree online at home. Gerry has had the most difficult time, due to not being able to spend much time face to face with friends. Good thing the internet is available!

Gerry and Ed are glad they scheduled their 25th anniversary celebratory trip to Arizona in January, not March. Got to visit a number of friends there and eat lunch with Ed's sister Ellen and husband Dennis in the shadow of the London Bridge, besides seeing a lot of God's awesome creation!

We have really enjoyed having all four of us living in the same house again. The boys were a big help in many ways, including sprucing up the yard. We now have a fire pit for hot dog roasts, you can tell where the rose bushes end, our flower beds have beauty bark rather than weeds, and the lawn got mowed on a regular basis, in spite of Ed not having the time to do it as often as he liked. They also helped Ed pick and can 50 quarts of cherries (get to can them when you have a good fruit year), besides a dozen and half quarts of pears. Douglas got in the pie making mood occasionally, much to our benefit.

We did miss getting to see siblings as often as we would like, but have long phone conversations occasionally to make up for it. We don't miss long distance phone bills.

Our church family meets in 2 services now so we can do some distancing. We are enjoying the Services and our new Pastor and family. Ed misses being able to teach Sunday school due to the current regulations, but that may change some time we hope.

We can go on and on but an important thing we are realizing is that God is with us and good to us every single day... no matter what the circumstance. We may go through good times and bad times but God is still there. How thankful we are for this. Also that sharing about Him with others is urgent as we have opportunity. The opportunities seem to come in more natural ways but they are still "God" opportunities to share. Please know that we think and keep you in our prayers. Thank you for your friendship and connection through the years whether that friendship came recently or has been present for many years.

Merry Christmas to you and may we follow closely beside God in the New Year.

Ed, Gerry, William, and Douglas Tyas