

A thrill of hope, a weary world rejoices

*Merry Christmas
from Allan & Dee*

Christmas 2021

Dear friends and family,
We pray that Joy, Peace and Hope are reigning in your lives this Christmas season.



To have worked in Christian missions and public health for nearly four decades, it has been a difficult year I would have never imagined....

but with many new procedures our YWAM campus has been able to welcome students on-campus for all four quarters with this fall's quarter having the most students we've ever had. This has meant, classes in tents, a whole new class schedule, and masking whenever we're together, but with God's grace we've found a way. This week we are sending teams out to Egypt, Columbia, Zambia & Iraq.

We were able to join Dee's family in Cleveland this summer for her brother-in-law's memorial service, visit Allan's folks in Arkansas and then we drove Benjamin's car out to him roughly retracing the route of Lewis & Clark from St. Louis to Montana, camping in our little 2-person tent 9 nights along the way. We loved it!

This fall we've gotten to team-teach several times together, but Dee also serves in our campus Staff Services office, works part-time at the public high school with English language learners; and

volunteers caring for endangered Hawaiian Monk Seals at the nearby Marine Mammal Center.

Although this has been our first year without any international travel in as long as we can remember, there have been numerous encouraging zoom calls, meetings, but far too many zoom memorial services for colleagues around the world.

Locally, Allan has continued to lead hands-on workshops with the Water For Life Institute, but was also invited to teach several weeks this year on worldview and the integration of science and faith in our Truth & Transformation, Education, Stewardship & Sustainability and Counter-Culture Schools as well as with our Discipleship Training School program. He loves the discussions working with his student trail-crews who maintain the 2-mile campus Prayer Trail and firebreak and we enjoy Christ-filled dinner discussions with students in our home throughout the year.

We still like hiking and exploring our island and have "discovered" a nearby pocket of rare waterbirds that overwinter at *our local water treatment plant*. Allan's even had modest success at a local crafts fair, selling his succulents and fancy nautical knots.

This Christmas, we are thankful to the Lord, for His love and faithfulness, and especially for being "*Emanuel - God WITH us.*"

And we remain so thankful for you, who we have the privilege to walk life alongside.





Benjamin

Benjamin graduated from Wheaton College in May and we were so proud to get to celebrate with him. He worked with a Soil Scientist and spent the summer at Wheaton’s Research Station in South Dakota. This fall he has been working and interviewing for Geology work while staying with his grandparents in Arkansas.



Lydia

Lydia was able to finish her Junior year in NYC, but with virtual classes. She had a Study Abroad program in Costa Rica across the summer and is now completing her Senior Year at Barnard College studying Wildlife Conservation, serving as a student leader with Columbia’s Christian Union, teaching in local elementary schools with SproutUp and publishing articles in the The Columbia Witness. She’s enjoying her “in-person” classes and activities this year.



Tabitha

Tabitha: We celebrated Tabitha’s graduation from high school in Kona this spring as well. She wrapped up four years of after-school work as baker and barista at local shops and joined her sister in NYC. She is working on Broadway at Starbucks near Time Square, sharing an apartment in Brooklyn, is enrolled with University of Arizona online, and loves it.

God has been so faithful in our kid's lives!



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