

August 17, 2020



Dear Church Family,

I know these are difficult times, but we must stand in God's Word and trust Him through all of this. Psalm 91 tells us that *"Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty."* And if we will say of the Lord; *"He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."* And stand in that Word then, *"He will save us from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence."* If this virus is not a deadly pestilence, I do not know what is. Therefore, we must keep on keeping on and never give into the devil's lies. Psalm 91 also tells us if we will *"make the Most High our dwelling, no harm will overtake us, no disaster will come near our tents. For he will command his angels concerning us to guard us in all our ways; Because we love Him, He will rescue us and protect us."* And *"that if we acknowledge His name. We can call on Him, and He will answer us; He will be with us in trouble, He will deliver us and honor us. With long life He will satisfy us and show us His salvation."* What an awesome God we serve.

Alright, I am off the soap box. On to what has been happening with me this past year. In May, my third great-grandson, Tanner turned one and this month; my second great-grandson, Benny will be turning five. He

has also started kindergarten online as has his cousin, my 1<sup>st</sup> great-grand-daughter, Riley who turned five in March. Xavier and Riley got a new sibling; Alanna on December 6<sup>th</sup> and she is already pulling herself up to a standing position. It was a rough couple of months when I could not see any of them but now that we have all isolated ourselves and use the necessary precautions we have been meeting in small groups once or twice a week.

Once a week at least my youngest grand-daughter, Anna (she and her brother Aaron Jr. have been to Happy Trails several times) plays games with me in the mornings. She is the mother of Tanner. Aaron Jr. comes down from Sacramento for special events and stays with her, so we too have visited on occasion.

Avery, my son's oldest daughter, got engaged and is planning to tie the knot with Cameron this September unless Covid-19 postpones that. She is the mother of Benny and they come over for games and cookouts or pizza on the weekends. She recently graduated from dental assistant school and has been on several interviews. Hopefully once this social distancing has ceased, she will be gainfully employed, married and on her way to a bright future.

CK, John's father has also been able to join us for these game days on several occasions. He is living in Samaritan Village so we can no longer visit at his residence until this social distancing is over. But he makes his way down on weekends when he is not busy playing games with fellow residence or working on a community jigsaw puzzle.

In May we got our Cessna back, finally! Since we have flown several places, one being Solvang which was during the "open for business" period and everyone had on masks. The closed off Copenhagen St.

and many restaurants had tables in the middle for outside dining. It was a beautiful day and we had a wonderful time just me and my honey.

I have been virtually visiting with my sisters much more with being unable to go many places. We pray together over many things and have seen results. We are firm believers in the verse that says *“Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.”* ~Ecclesiastes 4:12 It has gotten us through many, many dire times in our lives, this faith our parents instilled in us. So grateful that I had parents who knew Jesus.

Well, I do not want to turn this letter into a book so I will close with this.

*“Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So, we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”* ~ 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Agape,

Bonnie Gottschalk

“God bless us everyone!” ~ Charles Dickens