

Merry Christmas

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. *Genesis 1:1.* Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. *Mark 1:3.* For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. *Luke 2:11.* For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16.*

Special Events This Year

- **Joy and Dave Married** – January 25
- **Anthony Rattigan Born** – January 31
- **Timothy Kaeding Born** – September



Nicole is out living and working on her own now. She is finishing some college classes, but mostly working at Stonewood in the Orlando area. Nicole has moved into a house to room with another young lady who owns the house. They have a dog and a cat to keep them and each other company. We see lots of her since she stops by just about every week and also stops by for all family occasions (birthdays, etc.). Her new residence is not too far from April and Dwight's home.



Joy and Dave were married at Grace Lutheran Church on January 25. They are all settled into an apartment against the Halifax River. Dave is a great barbecue cook and does lots of cooking and smoking on their grill. I can guarantee some great food if you stop by! Dave and Mark have been hunting together this fall and they have each taken a deer. Joy has changed jobs, but still works near the house here, so stops in for lunch lots of days.



Anthony, April and **Dwight** are all busy. April working. Dwight working. Anthony working on April and Dwight! Anthony is really growing. He insists that he should be able to walk, testing every opportunity. He is a happy little boy and likes to come and visit. He also likes to have company come to his house to entertain him. April and Dwight have done a little traveling this year – making one trip to Las Vegas and also joining the family in Fargo for great, great, grandpa Henry's 85th birthday party.



Riley, Jordan, Casey, Jessy and **Mark** have been good neighbors. Riley is up every morning to see me off to work. He gets really unhappy if I don't show. Jordan and Casey are both busy with school, boy scouts, soccer, hunting and fishing. Casey has spent lots of days out in the woods with his dad, hunting deer. Jordan is a particularly good fisherman. He always brings home dinner when he goes offshore with Captain Ken on the *Bad Habit*. Jordan and Riley like to catch lizards and keep a terrarium full on the front porch. Casey and Jordan each have an aquarium going too.



Mark and Jessy have continued to remodel and upgrade their house. It's looking really good and they have lots of work in it already.



Timothy, Mia, Gayla and **Bennie** are living in the Jacksonville area at Orange Park. They also moved this year and have a nice two-story apartment on the west side of town. Timothy, Mia's son, was born this year. He is healthy and growing. They were all down to visit on Thanksgiving Day, along with all of the rest of the family.



Jan and **I** have tried to stay out of trouble this year too. Jan is teaching more and more quilting classes. She is mostly at the *Bird's Nest Quilt Shop* now, which is in Ormond Beach and very close by. In fact, it's only a few blocks from my office. We have done some more remodeling this year too. We have finished the family room and rebuilt the dining room. We have made some boat trips during the year also. The longest was a trip down the Intercoastal Waterway to St. Lucie and over to Lake Okeechobee. We enjoyed the trip, but one day the weather was rough enough that we pulled into a marina and sat it out. We went out to Vancouver together early this year for my last meeting as the chair of the *Polymers in Concrete Committee* for the American Concrete Institute. We also made a trip to the Dakotas that could be loosely described as traveling together. I worked up in Iowa for two weeks and we caught up with each other on the weekends in Huron, Fargo, Badger and Minneapolis. **Amber** lived with us again this year.



Our family continues to grow and prosper. Jan and I really enjoy having them all nearby and seeing each one often. This has been a good year and we are thankful for all of the blessings from everyone. We wish each of you a blessed new year too!



Happy New Year!

Jan & Al