



Christmas - 2023

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. – Matthew 1:21 ESV

Dear Beloved Reader,

As I sit to write this message, I realize how blessed Carol and I are, especially by you. For it is you, dear family and friends that bring love into our hearts, especially as we pause to remember you at this special time of year.

This letter is more than a “catch-up” on our life and happenings, it is a way of connecting once again as we rejoice in our friendship.

How fitting this is! As we celebrate God’s “Love Letter” born in Bethlehem, we send our love to you and pray that this finds you filled with the joy and hope that Jesus gives to each of us.

Highlights - 2023

Health

The year started with Rich developing a hitch in his giddy-up as he had problems walking and breathing at the same time. Six months of tests and treatments resulted in no change, so the doctor suggested the measure of last resort – lose weight!

The gauntlet was laid down in May. As of this writing Rich is “officially” (at least as far as his bathroom scale is concerned) down 40 pounds!

The breathing is improved; however, the handicapped parking tag helps lots! (So does the Preboard Authorization for Southwest and the visits of the Bacon and Koepf families to help around the house and yard!!)

Carol decided to empathize with Rich, so she also was able to fit into clothes stored for years at the back of the closet!

Milestone Birthday

The children gathered at Camp Blue Canoe in Three Rivers, MI to celebrate Rich’s 75th birthday! In addition to campfires, fun, food, and lots of games, they treated him to a tour of the Kalamazoo Air Zoo.



Family – 2023

Graduations:

- Noah Cohrs – High School – attending Northwestern University
- Vivian Bacon – High School – attending Washtenaw College

Marriage:

- Nathan and Amanda Williams

Move:

- Dan and Tomasita Cohrs from Colorado to Kansas – after he retired!

Concerts:

- Lewis Bacon – High School Marching Band
- Sophia Koepf – High School Band

Performance:

- Lexi Koepf – Supporting role in play: *Matilda Jr.*

Sports: (We cheered at)

- Myles – tackle football
- Kaden – Baseball
- Lexi – Softball



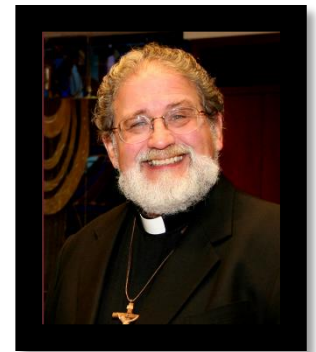
Homecoming

Charlene “Chuckie” Miller-Taylor nee Conrad was called into Eternity last November 13. She joins her sister and Rich’s first wife, Bunny.



Rich was honored to preach her farewell message.

Rev. Dr. Kenneth Klaus, friend, mentor, and brother in Christ, was called to his Heavenly Father Last March 23. Rich was honored to be a Pallbearer.



Bucket List – Greenfield Village and Henry Ford

I have always wanted to visit Greenfield Village and the Henry Ford Museum, so when Carol received free admission tickets back in 2008, I was excited to go. But life happened and the tickets were unused, until this past September when they were accepted and Carol treated me to two glorious days touring!



Merry Christmas!

Carol & Rich