

May 11, 2021

Dear Friends,

We had some snowflakes in the air just before lunch today. Poets love the first snow of the winter season. The locals like the last snow of the season. The locals should be happy soon, and the gardeners will celebrate by putting their onion sets in the ground.

Hannah's parents, who live in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in December. Today would have been Paul's parents' 63rd. We have enjoyed 37 years of marriage, and agree with Job who said his days pass "like an eagle swooping on its prey." Spring greetings to you, and, since time flies like an eagle, a Happy Fourth of July also.

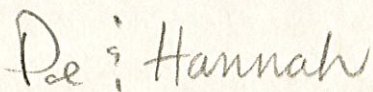
Last summer and fall Camp was quiet, which it ought not to have been, but we committed ourselves to using the period to the maximum effect. We were able to accomplish some larger projects and some needed facility maintenance. At home, Hannah got twelve years' worth of photos put in the family album. We now either have everything caught up, or we realize that we are never going to do some tasks simply because, well, we don't really want to.

During the lull we got to enjoy an October vacation to Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The trees were exploding in a frenzy of color. Copper Harbor, Mclain State Park, and the Porcupine Mountains were all a true blaze of glory!

After 341 nights without events, guests returned on February 5. Today we look forward to hosting spring retreats and summer camps. We are still seeking summer staff. If you know someone who would benefit from a summer of camp counseling, please recommend them.

Hannah was able to get into Canada to visit her parents earlier this month. The border guard woke up, and let her in. The visit was very much appreciated as her dad is recovering from a recent stroke. Hers was the only vehicle on the International Bridge, both going and coming.

Thank you for your interest in our lives. We are grateful for your friendship,


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Songs that have encouraged us in 2021

- **Jesus, Strong and Kind**; CityAlight
- **Christ Our Hope**; Getty Music

Books we have read and appreciated in the last few months

- **Gentle and Lowly, The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers**: Dane Ortlund, 2020. Hannah has been studying through this with a staff-women reading group. A very fine book, we highly recommend it.
- **These Strange Ashes**: Elisabeth Elliot. Written in 1975, about events in 1952 when she was Betty Howard. Remarkable parallels to our most recent ministry year. Short, insightful, with dry wit and genuine emotion.
- **Fidelity, Five Stories**: Wendell Berry, 1992. Written by a farmer in Kentucky. Dense, serious fiction.
- **Farmer Takes A Wife**: John Gould, 1942. Fun book on farm life in Maine This is our current read-aloud.
- **The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self: Cultural Amnesia, Expressive Individualism, and the Road to Sexual Revolution**: Carl R. Trueman. 2020. Takes 400 pages to cover about 200 years, showing how we got to where we are today, and how to think about our historical moment.

A podcast Hannah enjoys

- **What Have You**: Bekah Merkle and Rachel Jankovic usually get Hannah snickering. Two moms that have to sit in the car in order to have a moment of peace, and to have an unscripted chat about life.