

Christmas Journal

Keith & Carolyn Scheidies

415 E 15th St, Kearney, NE 68847

December 2020: Highlights of the year



What a Year!!

Hard to sum up this year. In all my imagination I could not have come up with a novel that incorporated what transpired this year.

A Year Later...

Almost to the day after my brother died January 8th, 2019, Keith had a severe fall on ice. His body went one direction, and his knee and ankle went another. It did quite a number on his ankle. He couldn't put any weight on it for weeks, graduating from wheelchair to walker to a cane that he still uses.



70! Can it Be?

The Saturday after my birthday Friday, January 24, our kids threw a party for me at Yanny Park Mitzi Center. The weather was sunny and warm and lots of friends and family showed up to eat pizza, offer gifts and share the day with me. Still hard to get my head around the realization I was 70-years-old!!!



Since Granddaughter Tori's birthday is Jan. 29th & granddaughter Ellery's birthday is the 30th, those who stayed overnight or were close joined us at Perkins for breakfast to celebrate their birthdays-16 & 3.

Covid-19

About the time, Keith was able to drive again, Covid-19 hit and we were once more home, even taking in churches services online rather than in the building. Keith still went out to his doctor appointments and for physical therapy. Mostly, we stayed home. I discovered I fit a subset of persons who, for health and disability reasons, am not supposed to wear a mask. That draws not-so-good looks from mask wearers..



Tragedy Hits

The last of April the Scheidies' family suffered a shock when Keith's next youngest brother, Mark, suffered a freak accident and was gone in a matter of days. Oh, how we wanted to go to Colorado to grieve and hug his wife and kids. With Covid that was a heartbreaking NO! The hits didn't stop when Keith's dad



Jiggs fell at Bethany Home and was brought to Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. We thought he'd recover, but he slid into decline. Comfort Care meant the family could visit. Our two kids were able to say their goodbyes. Heart-wrenching!

The positive was that restrictions had eased, and the family was able to not only hold a funeral for Dad, but also included a memorial for Mark. It was a time to be together and to grieve our huge losses.

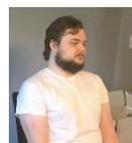
Special Visits

It helped so much when Cassie brought our youngest grandchildren Ellery-3 and Ezekiel-1 to visit a few times. They'd been couped up at home as well, with Cassie, a mental health professional, counseling through a telehealth situation. (Kurt still had to go to work though.)

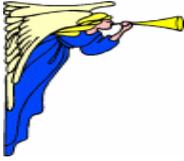


New Home

During the summer, son Chris, who lives in Lincoln, bought a large, lovely older home with lots of room for he and his kids: Devon-20, Dane-18 & Tori-16.



After Dane graduated from high school during the summer Keith and I went to Lincoln to see the house and to celebrate Dane's graduation. Kurt & Cassie and kids came down from Bellevue. We enjoyed an afternoon of food and fellowship.



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Ezekiel Turns Two



Zeke's birthday is November 6th and Keith and I drove to Bellevue to celebrate. Kurt's brother Grant & Tami and kids drove

from Virginia (Grant is in the Navy.) to help celebrate. Keith and I watched the four older kids: Liam & Hannah, Ellery & Ezekiel for the evening so the couples could go out. (Tami's mom watched baby Max at the motel.) Such a blessing to spend time with the kids. (We claim Liam & Hannah as grands, too. We're their "bonus" grandparents.)

Saturday morning was the actual birthday party. Chris and kids drove up from Lincoln. Keith's siblings Rhonda, Tim & Lisa and their daughter Sara as well as Cassie friend Amber & kids attended. Zeke loved the trucks, Legos and construction vehicles he received. He enjoyed the gluten-free cake his mom made for his birthday with a construction vehicle on top.



Another New Home

Chris was not the only one who purchased a home. Kurt & Cassie also bought a house and moved from Bellevue to Papillion—not far from where they lived in Bellevue. Still close to work and church. Now they have a huge lawn in which the kids can play.

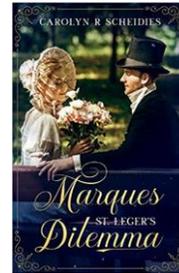
Our families, Keith & I, Chris and Kids are looking forward to celebrating Christmas in Kurt & Cassie's new home.

Health

Our health has been good this year—other than Keith's fall. He keeps responding to his treatments and doing well. I've managed not to fall this year,

though my pattern seems to be every two years. So far, I've stayed upright, which is all right with me.

Writing



I continue to write a bi-weekly column for the Kearney Hub. Even with the virus, my book *A Tale of the Oregon Trail* has still sold at the Great Platte River road Archway gift shop—not as many as usual, but any sales are good this year.

Also spent most of the year working on a new regency. Needed Chris' help with getting the cover to the right size, but finally **Marques St. Leger's Dilemma** was published—first in print and Kindle <http://idealinhope.com/books>

And Now

This has been a year of ups and downs and the restrictions seem never-ending. I cannot predict what the future will bring, but I know this—I serve a big God who loves and cares.

Jesus left everything to enter our world to live as His creations and died a sacrificial death to take our place, take the punishment we deserve. He died and then conquered the greatest of enemies—death. He did so that I might have life as I give Him control. Not just for today or tomorrow, but for eternity. Christmas is only the beginning of the story. But what a beginning!



From Luke 2: "...behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. *For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.*

Merry Christmas!

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