

Word in Life Ministries

Winter 2024

Christmas Overview of 2024:

Tis the Season Again.....I will be sharing an overview of 2024 with plenty of pictures of our adventures along the way! In February, I put on a Valentine's luncheon with some of the seniors at church in my home. I celebrated with my sister, Bonnie and her husband at Outback on their Anniversary. My son, Ben and his wife, Delora both turned 50 and we joined their celebration at Rosemount on a wintery afternoon at the north 22 Brewing Company for a taco bar. Even though the weather was evil, he had a great turn out.



Valentine luncheon, left to right: Alice, Jeanne, Kay, Sandy and Vicki



Ben & Delora's 50th Birthday: Left to right: Delora, Casey (their cousin turning 50 too) & Ben

In the Spring I did a funeral for a friend, Carmen Winters, which was in March and then in April LaVern and I went to the Midwest Mission Bible Training Center's Banquet to see the graduates get their certificates. We later went on a to see other missions and also our great granddaughter, Eleanor Giffort in South Carolina. These were the Mission stops: House of Hope in Brazil, IN, and we also had a blessing spending time in Terre Haute, IN with a missionary we support, Lawrence Urlick and his family. They do praise and worship throughout the community and have outdoor events. They are call, "The Torchhouse." Next stop was Set Free MBTC in Greenville, KY. We enjoyed our visit with Joshua and his lovely wife Stephanie. Next Mission was in Ohio at the Ohio MBTC in Hillsboro, OH. Fun to see old and new friends. We continued to Salyersville, KY to the mission there and talked on the Gifts of the Spirit. Very good questions and they were great learners of truth. The next stop was at Paragould, AR for their banquet. What a blessing for us to see friends we hadn't seen in a long time.



Graduates of 2024 at Midwest Mission Bible Training Center



Our great granddaughter, Eleanor Giffort



House of Hope Mission Bible Training Center in Brazil, IN



Lawrence Urlick, Missionary for The Torchhouse



Set Free MBTC, Greenville, KY



Ohio Mission Bible Training Center in Hillsboro, OH.



Kentucky Mission Bible Training Center in Salyersville, KY



Grace MBTC in Paragould, AR banquet



Gardners at Cheesecake Factory

That was our last mission stop and, on the way, back home we stopped in St. Louis, MO to see friends that we knew when we lived there. Gardner's and the Dickman's! What a fun time that was.

Finishing off the spring, I, Sandy, was treated by the children for Mother's Day. We went out with the Steinbrink's later to a church that put on a jazz concert. They were called Jumpin' Jehosafats. They were awesome. It brought back many great memories.



Mother's Day with family at Los Arcos Kitchen & Cantina



Jumpin' Jehosafats



Father's Day at the Outback with family!



Matt and Sandy paddle boat ride!

Summer had it's fun events too. Started out with Father's Day at the Outback with our family. Vern and I went up to the Cities and spent some time with the Burdick's up there. I've been wanting to go on a paddle boat ride, and my nephew, Matthew Burdick, took me out on his. That was so relaxing and enjoyed bonding with him again. Later on Vern's brother, Dean and wife Jan took us out to Applebee's and we had this amazing dessert.



Our amazing dessert at Applebee's

Angela and Andy had us over for a day of celebrating with a swim at their home and nice cook out.

Later, in the summer we went to the Kasson Fair with my sister, Bonnie,

and her husband, Allan, and friend, Bonnie K. We all enjoyed senior day at the Fair with a free lunch and old-time music for entertainment.



Swimming at daughter's house



At the Hoots tiki bar that Andy made. The whole family celebrated together



At the Kasson Fair!



LaVern with his two great nephews. Holding Hudson and Wyatt is next to him.

Towards the end of July, we were able to visit my other nephew in the cities, Andrew Burdick and his lovely family. The first time we got to see their newest boy. He was so adorable and friendly. Families are the best! August was packed full! My sister Bonnie got a new dog, Maltese, called Teddy. She got a small dog this time, so she enjoys having him in the house. Towards the end of August we went on another mission trip and went to the following places. St. Louis, MO, Hillsboro, OH for a banquet, Greenville, KY, Mark Tree, AR, Jerseyville, IL (made tie dye shirts there). On Sunday we headed back home.

Fall we had a family reunion on the Walter's side. Met a new neighbor named Tabitha and took her to church with us. She works at the Mayo Clinic. Of course, where else in Rochester, Minnesota. :-)



The Terrific Trio that is faithful to go to the Cresco Mission twice a month.



Cleaning Crew from High Point Church at our house for a cookout.

A friend from church, Desi, received a gift of life, a heart and new lungs. She recovered fast and is adjusting well with her new organs. The trio, Vern, Vicki and me twice a month travel to Cresco to share freedom in Jesus Christ. At the end of September, we had the Cleaning Crew from High Point Church over for a cookout. Vicki and Kay lend a helping hand to serve! What a neat blessing that was.

October we went to the Chanhassen Dinner Theater with Dean and Jan and saw White Christmas. I always look forward to going to the Dinner Theater with them. We have such a great time together. In October we had two new windows put in our living room. We extended the picture window from 4' to 6'. We sure are enjoying the bigger look. Took my sister out for her 77th Birthday at Kingdom Buffet and spent time reminiscing.

November, Dean & Jan came down and helped paint our living room and hallway plus the border. What a blessing that was and does my room ever look good. We ordered new blinds for our windows and are waiting for them to come in. They should come around December 26th. A late Christmas present. Thanksgiving was spent with my daughter's house and their family and part of my son's, Ben's family. As I read this yearly update, it is hard to believe that I did all those things. Take time, my friends and family, enjoy life and enjoy it to its fullest. Time does not stand still.



Andy holding Roxy bidding us goodbye after a great feast at their house for Thanksgiving Day.

Merry Christmas,

LaVern K. & Sandra L. Burdick

In Memory:

- Carrol Danielson, Janet Burdick's brother
- Lorraine (Bess) Beese, Vicki's sister
- Carmen Winter, friend
- Judy Taylor, LaVern's cousin-in-law