

Rochester, New York

December 2019

Merry Christmas from the Morehouses!

Bill and **Susan** are really enjoying life together after Bill's "graduation into retirement" in June 2018. We certainly had a full year in 2018 (www.nadegave.com/2018), but if anything this year was even fuller, as our 2-page illustrated letter will attest!



After visiting **Sarah**, **Carl** and the boys in Howell, **Joel** and **Julia** in Phoenix, and **Nate**, **Kari** and their kids in Cincinnati, we took a spring road trip through the southeastern states visiting more family. In July we hosted a big family reunion at our cabin in the NY Finger Lakes region. **Malcolm** and **Julia** Lowry journeyed with little Susannah to visit us from Berlin, Germany, attracting freshly retired **Hal** and **Carol** from Oregon, **Tom** and **Joann** from Greece, NY, **Melissa** from Texas, and most of our family. What a wonderful time together with aunts and uncles, brothers and sisters, kids, grandkids, and cousins!



Last year I had rotator cuff surgery on my left shoulder and recovered nicely enough for Susan and I to enjoy canoeing back into and camping at a remote Adirondack site on **Indian Lake** in August. We went directly from there to join up with a lively group of my old Andover classmates for a **57th Reunion** in Saratoga Springs.

What? 57 years? Well, we don't really feel it yet...



This summer and fall we shared some good times together around Canandaigua Lake with my brother **Scott** and **Carolyn** and kids and then headed out west to Vancouver Island for a long-anticipated visit with my sister **Gail** and her husband of 51 years, **Dick**. After spending a wonderful week reminiscing, catching up with their family and friends, boating, crabbing, hiking, feasting, and lounging at and around their breathtaking 160-acre mountain farm in Cassidy not far from the Georgia Strait and Ladysmith, our time was up and we had to leave... ☺

We were barely back from BC when we headed west again, first to Indiana's Amish country where we helped our friends Norm and Nancy Wetterau lead a national Free Methodist Healthcare Fellowship retreat, and then it was off to Gainesville, Texas for the **Robison Family Reunion** on Susan's mother's side of the family!

We always have a great time with her gracious cousins, hosted this time at Jim and Carol's rambling waterside getaway place on Moss Lake. Delicious food, relatives that are friends, family stories, cool water, blue Texas skies, glowing sunsets, warm campfires, and sweet memories that keep growing. How can you beat that?



A quick update about our growing offspring and grandchildren:

Sarah and **Carl** are both working as hard as ever with their respective jobs in commercial art and station management at WRAT, all the while enjoying the daily rewards and challenges of raising their growing twins, **Carter** and **Weston**, who are now 5 and "blooming" in grade school if you can imagine that!

Nathan and **Kari** are settling into their new-to-them Victorian house near the University of Cincinnati where Nate's carrying on his research with jumping spiders. Kari continues to do environmental consulting online, and daughter **Coral** (10) and son **Jasper** (7) are prospering in music and crafts along with their studies at the creatively warm and inviting Waldorf School they attend.

Johanna loves her full time weekend shift job in the Golisano Children's Hospital NICU, while **Asa** works weekdays in the Sleep Lab. **Zoya** (16) has already started looking into colleges (for nursing?) while her energetic sister **Anya** (8) negotiates the challenges of 3rd grade and "baby" **Elon** turns into a toddler.

Joel and his talented wife **Julia** are both serving as music directors in two churches in the Phoenix area where they're living with their kitties, Gwennie and Toulouse. Joel is also working full time as an online financial consultant and keeping his vintage Mercedes Benz stable going while Julia finishes her Doctorate in Organ Performance at ASU. How do they do it all?

Bill launched an interactive website called His Kingdom and Us (www.hiskingdom.us) last December that has grown to over 130 pages already, with more content and editorial work to be completed. He hopes to have it done before he speaks again this year at the national CCHF Conference in Cincinnati in March.

Susan enjoys having him working alongside her at home as well as in the neighborhood and broader community work that she actively leads, all the while serving as a much sought-after Nana and harpist!

Life is abundant and full! Our Lord, in His amazing grace, continues to love and provide for us. Please visit our Christmas letter with slideshows online at <https://tinyurl.com/wseuhhc> or contact us anytime at susan@harpsons.com and/or wmorehouse@gmail.com. Blessings to all!

May your Christmas be filled with LOVE again this year. We appreciate and miss each of you, dear family and friends, and hope to see you in the New Year.

Bill & Susan