



Update

Happy
New Year!

January 2017

Vernon & Martha Hedge

Counting Blessings

We would like to share highlights of our family and a snapshot of our activities in 2016. To start, my health has improved since the heart procedure in July to correct rapid heartbeat (SVT). I have been able to make the 100 mile trips to Lindale to teach at Calvary Commission with no problems, and look forward to another full year teaching. I no longer climb ladders or do that kind of work, but stairs aren't needed to teach.

Martha completed her ACC requirements with the International Coach Federation for credentials as a life coach. This took several years of training and experience to pass their test. She has both individual and business clients and absolutely loves watching people break through barriers and move forward in their lives. She finished selling her mother's farm this year and closed out the final details of her estate. That was a long process but one she was glad to do in a way to honor her mother's wishes.

In December she had successful cataract surgeries on both eyes and definitely has a "new view" of life. And she loves being close to our family, especially the grandchildren.

Christy still lives in Tyler TX and works as a Mud Technician with an oil company. She is an engineer graduate of UT Tyler, loves to hunt and fish, and is a grandmother of two.

James, her son, is in Raleigh NC where he is the fleet mechanic in charge of over 100 vehicles for a HVAC company. Loves his work

and is good at it. His son, Tristen, will be nine soon and his daughter, Liah, will be two in March.

The GAMBLES:

Debbie continues Interior Design work on the side, is a mom of two teens and a middle schooler, and is very active in leadership as pastor's wife at church. This past year overflowed with activity but they had the privilege to go to Hawaii as a family for a much-

Contributions

Because of so few using return envelopes, we have discontinued including them. We apologize if this is inconvenient for you. Please make all checks to "Calvary Commission" and mail them to the address on this newsletter. We receive all gifts, which are tax deductible. Receipts for 2016 will be mailed by the end of January. If you have any question about your receipt, please contact us immediately.

Thank you, thank you for your continued prayer and financial support! ✨

needed vacation.

Michael is extremely busy as Pastor of Radiant Life Church where we are members. The church is going into its 5th year, and we're getting ready to move to another location. We've outgrown where we are, which is a good problem, but transitions are always two-sided—exciting and stressful. (Note to parents: train your kids well; one of them could become your pastor.) The church website is www.RadiantLife-Church.org

Carissa is 18, got to vote this year, and is a senior. She works part time, her favorite class is year book, loves photography, plays the keyboard, and is a lovely young lady. She plans to go to college after graduation.

Josiah is 14, a freshman in high school. He likes Xbox and enjoys working on the set-up team and helping on the sound board at church. He is gifted with all things technical and loves architecture.

Caleb is 11, in the 6th grade at middle-school, likes soccer, is also good at video games, and enjoys hoverboarding. He's a thinker and is thoughtful of other people.

The HARRIS Family:

Corrie is the coordinator for the Hunt Institute at SMU, works with the director, and loves it. This is what she got her master's degree to do, to work in an area that focuses on poverty alleviation. She

(Continued from page 1)

considers it a God-move where she is experiencing fulfillment and has come full-circle from their work in Nicaragua.

Chris works full-time as a leading salesman for the amazing, high-end 3D printers and continues teaching his martial arts system on the side. He always has multiple projects going at the same time.

Stanton is a 6 ft tall, 18-year-old senior who got to vote this year. He is working on his 3rd degree black belt in Roku Jutsu, Chris's system of martial arts. He continues to work at Top Golf part-time, is on the wrestling team at Plano West, and plans to go to college. He wants to be a commissioned officer in the US army.

Erica is 16, a sophomore in high school, is gifted in art and photography. She too is training in Roku Jutsu and will soon test for her blue belt. She is a sensitive, talented and lovely young lady.

Miley the pug dog is as happy as can be as long as someone is home and the fire is lit.

The BUSBYS:

Jamie is working on a BA degree in complementary and alternative health. She has struggled for several years with different physical issues and is turning her own research into answers for other people. She is a yoga instructor, works with essential oils, works part-time for an eye doctor and is learning to play the viola. Her website is www.yogarich.com

David is Account Executive over Cooperate Multiunit Accounts for Sysco Foods and is often the leader in sales. He loves to cook and grill—and the whole family loves for him to grill. He is an avid hunter and takes their children camping. They love it.

Alyssa will soon be 17 and is a junior in high school. She is a quiet young lady but has her blue belt in Roku Jutsu—and wants to earn her black belt with Uncle Chris! She is an avid reader, is highly involved with church, and is active in leadership with a church youth group where she has gone on a couple of mission trips.

Elijah is 11, is in the 6th grade in middle school. He has just gotten into shooting with his first BB gun, plays viola in the middle school orchestra, enjoys camping, riding dirt bikes, video games, and dancing. The boy has moves! ✨

Collin County Detention Center

I have seen the Lord move on men's lives in my weekly Tuesday afternoon Pod-Church as it is called. It's a singing service and a Bible sermon/lesson. This facility is a holding place for men with a short sentence of some kind, for men awaiting trial, or after trial awaiting transfer to a prison to serve their sentence. I strive for two things in any message I bring: draw them close to God, realizing that we are all in the same boat spiritually, and to help them deal with the anger spots of unforgiveness. Since many of the men have some church background, I challenge them to make quality decisions and walk with God when they get out. Their handshakes, expressions of appreciation, and comments tell me they are getting what the Lord is saying to them. ✨

Calvary Commission Bible Institute

I travel to Lindale, Texas each Thursday to teach two classes and sometimes the Thursday morning

chapel service, which includes all the student body and staff. This spring semester I will be teaching the first-year students Basic Essentials of Christian Doctrine and a course on spiritual warfare entitled Standing Strong in Christ.

I have 27 men and 4 ladies who have made quality decisions in prison, been accepted by Calvary Commission, and are there to grow in Christ.

The beauty of this is I have the students for a whole school year to input into their lives in class and one-on-one counsel throughout the year.

My vision is to attack with the Word of God the heartache, rejection, and worthless feelings in the men and women and replace the strongholds of sin with the healing and strong identification in Christ. When they leave to establish their homes, my goal is to have equipped them to endure, testify to others, and take back what the enemy stole from them, as well as take some of the enemy's territory from him. ✨

Take His Presence with You

Something to remember for 2017:

When you walk through the secular world we live in, and when you enter a place that may be hostile or indifferent to God, remember that your very presence in that room, because of the Holy Spirit Who resides in you, means that you have brought the presence of God into a place that may not have wanted or even recognized His presence. The power of the Lord has now filled that place, and all things are possible at that point. Praise God for His Presence in us!