

# Wishing you a Blessed Christmas

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*“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.”*

*Micah 5:2*

December 8, 2008

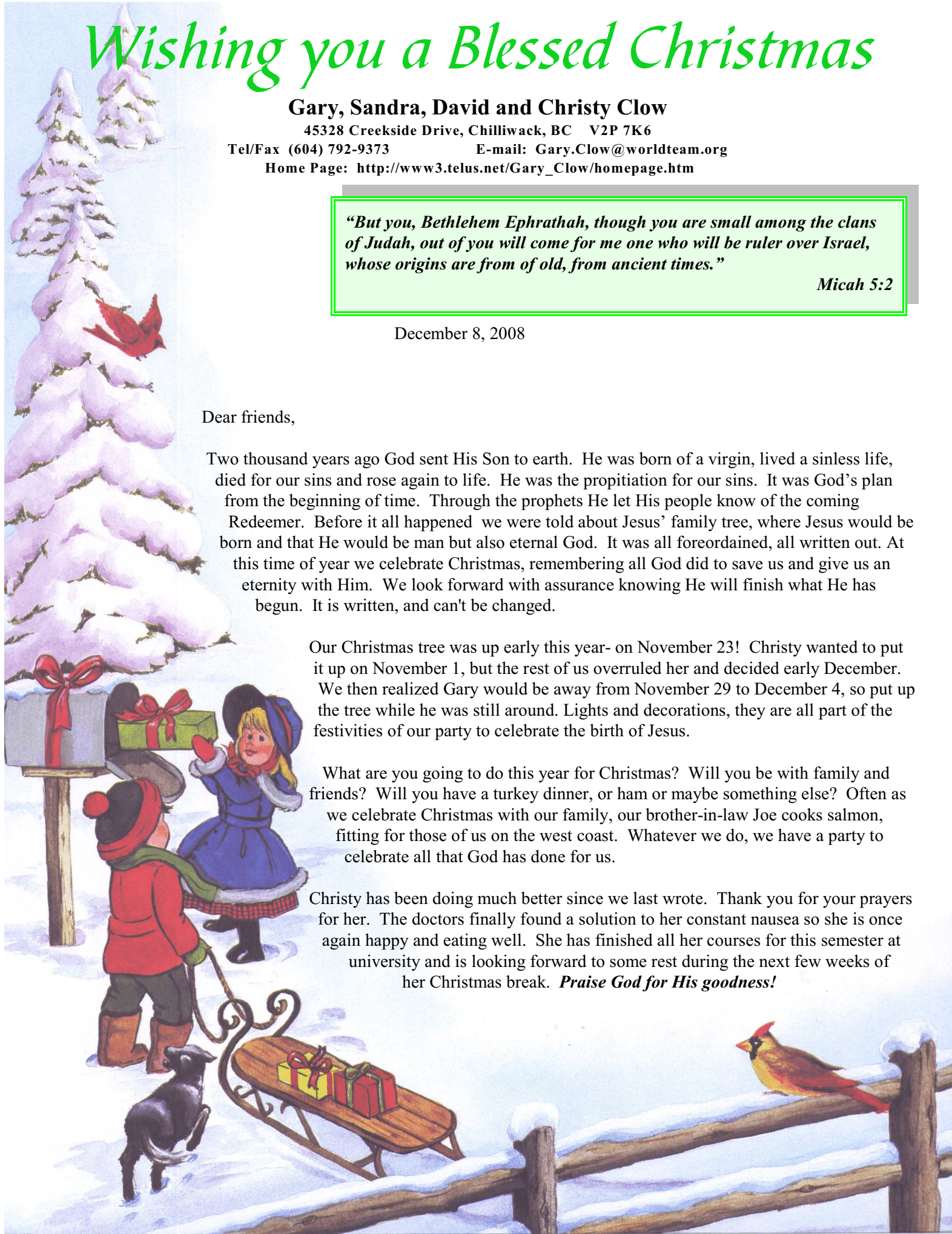
Dear friends,

Two thousand years ago God sent His Son to earth. He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died for our sins and rose again to life. He was the propitiation for our sins. It was God's plan from the beginning of time. Through the prophets He let His people know of the coming Redeemer. Before it all happened we were told about Jesus' family tree, where Jesus would be born and that He would be man but also eternal God. It was all foreordained, all written out. At this time of year we celebrate Christmas, remembering all God did to save us and give us an eternity with Him. We look forward with assurance knowing He will finish what He has begun. It is written, and can't be changed.

Our Christmas tree was up early this year- on November 23! Christy wanted to put it up on November 1, but the rest of us overruled her and decided early December. We then realized Gary would be away from November 29 to December 4, so put up the tree while he was still around. Lights and decorations, they are all part of the festivities of our party to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

What are you going to do this year for Christmas? Will you be with family and friends? Will you have a turkey dinner, or ham or maybe something else? Often as we celebrate Christmas with our family, our brother-in-law Joe cooks salmon, fitting for those of us on the west coast. Whatever we do, we have a party to celebrate all that God has done for us.

Christy has been doing much better since we last wrote. Thank you for your prayers for her. The doctors finally found a solution to her constant nausea so she is once again happy and eating well. She has finished all her courses for this semester at university and is looking forward to some rest during the next few weeks of her Christmas break. ***Praise God for His goodness!***



David wrote his last Christmas exam on December 5 so is also finished for the semester. In January, Christy has all of her classes at the university campus a couple of blocks from our house so can walk to class. Unfortunately all of David's classes will be at the campus in Abbotsford, a 25 minute drive each day. ***Please pray for both David and Christy as they study at university and as they serve the Lord in church.***

On November 29 Gary flew to Detroit and travelled to Lakes Baptist Church in Walled Lake, Michigan to speak to the people there about ministry in Cuba. He stepped off the aircraft about 6:00 pm Saturday evening, travelled to Walled Lake, spoke in two morning services in the church, ate lunch and was back at the Detroit airport before 2:00 pm on Sunday. A pretty quick trip, but a very good time with the people there as he shared about Los Pinos Nuevos and what God is doing in Cuba. ***Our prayer is that Lakes, and other churches, will continue to be involved in Cuba.***

From Detroit Gary flew to Atlanta to take part in several days of meetings with the World Team Americas Area leadership team, of which he is a part. The group worked hard and managed to get through a long list of agenda items to do with World Team's ministry in South American, North America and the Caribbean. Thursday morning, December 4, he flew home, arriving back in Chilliwack by 6:30 pm, just in time to go out for another meeting. While Gary was gone, Sandra was as busy as ever, meeting with and helping many women here in Chilliwack.

Gary will be travelling to Santiago, Dominican Republic for World Team Americas Area meetings the first two weeks of February. ***Pray for him and field directors from Chile to Canada as they meet to share, rejoice, pray and plan.*** It will be a busy time. ***Please remember to pray for Sandra, David and Christy while Gary is gone.***

Do you know someone who is considering becoming a missionary, someone whom the Lord is speaking to about full time missionary service? World Team is looking for missionaries for many countries in South America and throughout the world. If you know someone thinking of missionary service, please invite them to contact us. Or if you know a church which would like us to speak about Cuba or missionary opportunities, please let us know.

Thank you for your partnership in ministry with us. As we have written many times, missions is a partnership. Some go, some pray, some give financially, but all are vitally important as we preach Christ to the nations. You mean so much to us. Without your support we would not be able to serve as we do.

Have fun this Christmas. Celebrate with friends and family. Tell them why this is such a special time of year for you and your family. Invite someone to a Christmas service at your church. At this time of year, many people are so overwhelmed that they really would like to join us at church for a peaceful celebration of the birth of the Saviour.



Merry Christmas.

In Jesus' love,

Gary, Sandra, David and Christy Clow

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