



December 2020

**Merry Christmas
and hoping for a
Happy, Healthy New Year!!**

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May the blessings that surround the birth of the Christ Child be with you and your family this holiday season. Join us as we pray for peace on earth.

Like everyone we know this year was dominated by COVID-19. We were blessed to have family time in relatively safe venues. We spent nearly a month with our daughter Susannah and her family in California, by way of two 3600-mile round trip car trips involving two hotel stays each way and stays in Airbnb's. We also spent nearly 3 months with our daughter Gwyneth on Cape Cod in her little summer cottage next to her larger year-round one. We spent a lot of time with Granddog Phelix and new puppy Phelicity! We missed seeing our granddaughters this year except on New Year's Eve weekend but hope we can work out a socially distanced visit soon. Barb managed a trip to Argentina in mid-February while Susannah's husband Luis was in California getting started on his new job in Oakland. Our whole family was saddened by both the sudden passing of Rob's mom and the tragic death of Barb's brother Jim Boucher from a car accident when a horse that escaped its corral ran in front of his car near Steamboat Springs, Colorado in September. We participated at the funeral via Zoom.

We worshipped with others on YouTube and had Zoom Sunday School. Barb continues her role in her professional society by Zoom, as well. WhatsApp provided frequent interaction with the four-year old Rivera twins. However, Barb's annual Tuba Christmas and her water aerobics got eliminated in the wake of COVID-19. Phil and Barb enjoyed lots of walks on the Sun City trails in Texas, the trails around their cabin in Blue Ridge Georgia, and walks along the shore in both California (San Francisco Bay) and on Cape Cod. We partook of grocery deliveries and pick up orders.

 <p>Black Eyed Peas at cabin – Phil and Chloe top, Rob, Gwyneth and Camille bottom</p> 	<p>Waiting for COVID-19 test results</p>   <p>Full California visit in June!</p>  	<p>Luggable Loo</p>  <p>Car trips without public restroom stops</p>
 <p>RIP Jim Boucher</p>	<p>Thanksgiving visit with Riveras birding on the bay and celebrating Luis's birthday</p>     <p>Dinner</p> <p>Awesome window!</p>	 <p>Lobster Dinner on patio at the Buteras' Cape cottages</p>

We hope you have a wonderful Christmas season and a blessed new year!

