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Dear family and friends -

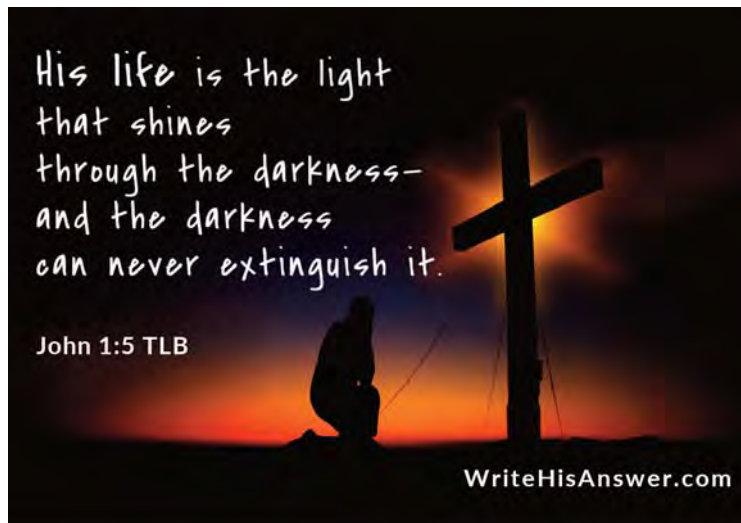
Our tree is decorated. Gifts purchased but not yet wrapped. I still need to bake our favorite cookies and my mother's famous icebox coffee cake. Our inflatable Christmas nativity, lights, and two deer are shining brightly outside. (It's too cold to go snap a picture.)

Paul's health is so much better after a mid-June trip to the hospital by ambulance in the middle of the night. (He said, "I think I'm dying.") A new primary care / geriatric doctor has discontinued three of Paul's meds. He still walks slow, but except for occasional "senior moments" he no longer gets so confused he doesn't know where he is at. *Thank You, Father.*

I'm still managing to avoid knee replacements and my kidney and blood sugar numbers are improving now that the same doctor has eliminated a pill I should not have been taking. I've lost a little weight but need to lose at least another 40 pounds. *Please help me, Father.*

Sharon, our oldest daughter, has just had her right hip replaced. The surgeon said it went "great," but she's in a lot of pain. *Father, please place Your hand of healing on her.*

The rest of our family and grandkids are all doing great. We are blessed!



The other night we went to our oldest granddaughter's concert at the high school. It ended with about seventy alumni joining the chorus and the director's request that we stand for the "Hallelujah Chorus." I sang along even though I'm no longer able to reach those magnificent high notes.

I can't help wonder if this is the last year this "tradition" will be tolerated. Our nation is gripped in a spiritual darkness that is rapidly intensifying. Will America be saved by a mighty revival that brings us to our knees at the foot of the cross? Or will we lose our freedom to proclaim the name of Jesus and be arrested and imprisoned for our faith in Him?

This may seem like dark thoughts for what should be such a bright and merry time of the year. But I can't be silent. And as long as I am able I will continue to use the Colorado and Greater Philly Christian Writers Conferences to address the issues facing our nation and equip all who come to "Write His Answer."

Father, thank You for sending Jesus. Help us, help me, to reflect His light and to share His love this Christmas and every day of the coming year.

A blessed Christmas to you all because He came and is coming again!

Marlene & Paul

Colorado Christian Writers Conference
May 13-16, 2020
24th year!
YMCA of the Rockies
Estes Park Center
colorado.WriteHisAnswer.com

To encourage and equip you to write about a God who is real, who is reachable, and who changes lives.
Directed by Marlene Bagnull. Author of *Write His Answer - A Bible Study for Christian Writers*

Greater Philly Christian Writers Conference
July 22-25, 2020
37th year!
Dock Mennonite Academy
Lansdale, PA
philadelphia.WriteHisAnswer.com