

"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us."

- Jn. 1:14

2014 in Review

That's another way of saying, "Emmanuel, God with us"! The older I get, the more awed I am at what God has done for us through Christ! We all know we are far from sinless, and God in His Word pronounced the death penalty (eternal separation from Him) for sin. To think that His love for us was SO great that Jesus willingly came as the God-Man specifically to pay that penalty for me/you so that I/you could be forgiven eternally! That glorious reality floods my heart with gratitude and with the desire to spend and be spent for Him until He takes me Home or comes again for those who have believed in Him and His sacrifice on our behalf.

That truth became more personal in January when my dear 49-year-old nephew was taken unexpectedly into the Lord's presence. He's greatly missed, but knowing that he trusted Christ's sacrifice for his sin gives joy in that though he is "absent from the body," he is "present with the Lord." Ten years or so ago he told me that if I needed care in the future, he and his wife would look after me if I were in their area. The Lord will provide, as always.

I'm grateful for good health and continue to serve with UIM International proofreading, editing, writing, gathering monthly news, and planning a quarterly newsletter. My Native girls groups were smaller last semester; this semester I have no teens, only younger girls. We'll soon have our annual soup supper/Christmas party for them and their moms and another party for two Navajo grandmas and a couple of mutual friends. The MK (missionary kid) party is delayed until Jan. 1.

I so enjoyed spending time with a group of Albuquerque ladies who have prayed for me for years: once speaking at their ladies' retreat and once when they visited and spoiled me! I shared the "First Love" retreat material with a group of Indian Bible College ladies, my home church in MO, and two visiting CA friends as well. I'll share again at a supporting church in Lake Havasu, AZ, in February. I also enjoyed interacting with numerous groups at a supporting church in CA in October.

This has been a record guest year—around 90. I do enjoy that ministry and thank God for His strength and provision. I look forward to hosting another Frontier School of the Bible short-term mission group in March and attending our family reunion in May. In August a friend and I plan to attend a two-day conference at the The Cove in N. Carolina; the speaker will be Lloyd John Ogilvie.

Have a rejoicing Christmas season and a year ahead focused on the One Who came, lived, died, and rose again for our sakes!

Juanita