

D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 2

Have A MERRY Christmas

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Good News

An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today, in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you. You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest..."
 Luke 2:8-14

✕ O, Come Let Us Adore Him ✕

When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, the Magi saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of frankincense and of myrrh.

CHRISTMAS WITH THE ORPHANS IN HAITI

I (Doug) have just returned from Haiti with a team that decorated the orphanage for Christmas. For our 26 orphans at Open Door, this would be the first time they would ever see a Christmas tree with lights and presents. The team brought new dresses, suits, ties and shoes for the children to wear for their own Christmas banquet. The children marched in to Christmas music, all dressed up, holding candles. They sang a special song, ate a Christmas feast,



and then they each received a present. Christmas takes on a whole new meaning when you see it through the eyes of a child who has never slept on a bed before, let alone have their own bed, as each of our children now do. The laughter, the joy, the excitement, the gratitude... as each child received their one special gift with their own name on it. This was truly a Christmas to remember.

Something's Missing...

In September when we were told the Haitian government had approved our adoption, we would never have imagined our girls not being with us for Christmas. This Christmas feels incomplete in the Holliday house. Two of our girls are

missing. We are so sad that Edithe and Edline will not be with us. Seeing Christmas through their eyes this year would have been a great joy for all of us. Thanks for your continued prayers. Our hearts ache to have our girls home.



A House Full Of Girls



Marisa, 16 and in 10th grade, continues to grow in her photography. She's helped with a few weddings this year and is the photo editor for year book at school (maybe editor-in-chief next year). She hopes to get her driver's license over Christmas break.



Jaclyn, 14 and in 8th grade, continues to excel in both school and the arts. She has made it to both All State Choir and All State Drama this year and has had major roles in her school plays and concerts. She and Marisa loved their mission trip to the Philippines.



Emma, 12 and in 6th grade, is making the adjustment well to life as a middle schooler. Emma loves to hang out with her friends, make movies and bake cookies or brownies. She went on a mission trip to Haiti with her Daddy over the Summer. She loves to serve.



Mary-Faith, 10 and in fourth grade, is on the honor role in school, loves to read, play with her sisters or on her iPod, and has found a new passion... her one year old shitzu, Gizmo. He's a fun little dog and Mary-Faith does a great job taking care of him.

2012 MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

HAITI

Opened orphanage for 26 precious children

Opened church and school in village of Maguayave

Brought medical, dental, construction, agriculture, children's ministry, evangelism & leadership teams on mission trips

15 leaders in SOYM trained to plant churches, lead youth ministries & make disciples... leading over 300 to faith in Christ in 2012.

EAST AFRICA

Leaders trained in Kenya, Tanzania, Zanzibar, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi

WEST AFRICA.

Cameroon Conference, where 40 students led 85 to Christ in 2 days



BLESSED BY GOD

We celebrated 20 years of marriage in August by taking a cruise to the Bahamas and Key West. 20 years... can we really be that old? We had great fun with the whole family on a vacation to the mountains of N.C. where we did ziplining, gem mining and hiking mountains, caves and waterfalls. We had an amazing Shafer Family reunion in Northern California, which included a trip to San Francisco, the Redwoods, Santa Cruz Beach & Boardwalk, and Apple's Company Store.

LIVE TO LOVE

Jennifer still temps as a Dental Hygienist, but the majority of her time is spent at home keeping up with four busy girls. She continues to lead a jr. high



small group and lead worship at church, and has really enjoyed her two trips to Haiti this year. It's a rare night when we don't have one or two neighborhood kids over for dinner or spending the night. Jen lives to love, give and serve.

*Serving Christ,
Doug, Jen & the girls*

THANK YOU!

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR FAMILY AND MINISTRY IN 2012. YOUR ENCOURAGEMENT, LOVE, PRAYERS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT HAVE BEEN A BLESSING TO OUR FAMILY AND TO THOSE WE SERVE IN THE LOVE, POWER AND GRACE OF OUR SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A YEAR-END CONTRIBUTION TO HELP LAUNCH US INTO AN EXCITING NEW YEAR OF MINISTRY, ALL GIFTS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE AND CAN BE MADE PAYABLE TO:

**DOUG HOLLIDAY
MINISTRIES
PO BOX 953278
LAKE MARY, FL 32795**

ONLINE GIVING IS ALSO
AVAILABLE AT
DOUGHOLLIDAY.ORG



We have been greatly encouraged by the powerful truths we've learned from a book on the life of George Mueller, *Simple Trust, Simple Prayers*.

We would love to send you a copy of the book to encourage you as well. We're convinced that if we would learn to pray and trust God like George Mueller, and if those who pray for and support us would learn to pray and trust God like George Mueller, we would all see God work in ways far beyond what we could ever dare to ask or imagine.

To confirm that you would like to receive *Simple Trust, Simple Prayers*, e-mail us at dougholliday@mac.com and we'll get it in the mail to you. We'll also begin sending out regular prayer updates by e-mail for those who want to be included.

Merry Christmas, Doug & Jennifer