

BUHLER'S DECEMBER 2018 UPDATE

We trust your Christmas and New Year's yielded many positive memories. We have much to be thankful for in our lives.

The turkey stew dinner on Christmas Eve was very well attended (120+) and it brought together folks from many different social circles. A good number of our Food Bank friends joined us, as well as guests from the local BC Housing complex, some refugee families, quite a few international students and of course many Faith Fellowship regulars. I love the sound of people laughing, talking and eating ☺ from my vantage point in the kitchen. I probably used 5 turkeys and 15 large bags of vegetables (processed onions, peppers, celery, carrots) peas and carrots plus 6 ice cream buckets of turkey stock from Thanksgiving turkeys. Many of the attendees went upstairs after for the Candlelight service.



We hosted a number of International students for a Christmas Tea in our home reminiscent of the many similar teas we hosted with our missionary colleagues at Kijabe during our time in Kenya. The international students got to experience a number of firsts in regards to food and traditions.

Our family celebration featured homemade pizza for the kids and Ethiopian food for the adults. There were 7 adults and 6 grandchildren. It was a great day.

One day last week Austin and I and an International student went to the recycle depot. We had a good discussion about work and tithing. I mentioned that we could buy gloves and give them to the homeless. The international student very kindly donation money for the project. A few days ago I was in a store buying 50 pairs of gloves. A lady in the lineup ahead of me noticed and asked if I was going to distribute them. She was on crutches as she only had one leg. She said she could not physically help but wanted to contribute. She took out a \$20 bill and asked the clerk for change. Another man in the lineup checked for change but then decided to

give me \$20 for his donation and told the lady he had taken care of it. She insisted and got change so she could give me \$10. Now I have 50 pairs of gloves, have not spent a penny of our own money and still have a balance of \$10. Now I need to go shopping for more!!

There are some wonderful good hearted people in this world. They reflect the image of our creator at their best. I try to as well but admit that at times I fall very short of who I was originally created to be. The newsfeeds every day tell the sad stories of humankind's brokenness and selfishness. That is why Christ's entry into our world was such an amazing gift. It set into motion God's great redemptive plan culminating 33 years later with Christ's death on the cross and resurrection 3 days later. The power of sin and death in our lives was broken through His sacrifice for us. All we have to do is accept and open this amazing gift He offers.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Thank you for your kindness and concern for us. Even as these folks in Dollar Tree demonstrated, you also demonstrate the goodness and character of God through your generosity and prayers. God bless you in 2019.

In Christ

Mark and Catherine Buhler

Contribution details found at:

https://www.fellowship.ca/qry/page.taf?id=33&_dsfd_uid1=94&_nc=1f4cbc69528621400a49b2dc99ac3226

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