

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS... December/January.

In January, we will return to monthly newsletters, with occasionally combining two months in one. For this Season of Advent, it has been our joy and honor to stay connected with you and your family through the written word. I do, of course, look forward to a time when we will see each other face to face, more and more often. In the meantime, let's continue to be in relationship through the phone, snail mail, texts, Facebook, emails—communication in whatever form is best for you!

I have been enjoying Christmas cards a lot this year, for that very reason. It's a great way to stay connected. Have you noticed that some of them are going a little deeper now a days? For example, here's a beautiful one that I received.

To a world that needs more warmth and peace... To people who need more compassion and hope... To every heart that needs more of his love, Christmas comes—and the world rejoices. Have a joyful season.

Yes, Christmas and rejoicing come even in a pandemic year. Even in a time when there is so much arguing and disagreement. Here's another card that was very expressive about just exactly what Christmas is.

Every time a hand reaches out to help another...that is Christmas. Every time someone puts conflict aside

and strives for understanding...that is Christmas. Every time people forget their differences and realize their love for each other...that is Christmas. May this Christmas bring our world closer to a spirit of caring,

closer to the blessing of peace.

I couldn't have said it better myself! What I can say is that my heart is warmed by the friendships and love that I share with so many of you. My life is richer for our companionship and fellowship together. May the gifts of God's blessings fill you, like it does me, with all hope, peace, joy and love...for Christmas and forever!

Pastor Geri