

December 21, 2015

Holiday greetings from Karen & Harold! *We have seen his glory*—born in a stable, showing us that he came to love even when it meant hardship and suffering.

Some brief updates on our life here in Harrisonburg, Virginia:

- In mid-summer two of our clan left VA for Colorado Springs. Daniel & Meg began a two-year assignment with Mennonite Mission Network as unit leaders for a Service Adventure unit of high school grads.
- Also in mid-summer we added two to our Harrisonburg contingent. One early morning in July, April & Scott became parents of little Miles — and that same moment we became grand-parents! Then in August Darrel & Briana became parents of Lewis. The little boys are, of course, fun to watch and since our family sits toward the front of the church, the preacher sometimes is competing for attention!



On an October hike



From a family photo shoot in May (two mothers-to-be!)

- At the end of December Karen will be cancer-free for 5 years!

- As far as job transitions, **Scott** is the winner: the new father also graduated from nursing school, aced his boards (needing the fewest questions possible!), and began work at our local hospital. **Briana** is a nurse and shift coordinator on another floor of the hospital. **Darrel** has gone up a few levels in management at Shenandoah Growers, fresh herb distributors. **April** continues in inter-library loans at JMU. **Rachel** continues teaching—5th grade math the last months—and selling so much of her knitting that she's wondering about getting a phone with a credit card app. **Daniel** began a credit union job while in seminary and is still with them part time—they created a way for him to work remotely from CO! (He & Meg's unit leader role is considered a part-time job.) **Meg** is doing many things, including working with community gardens, teaching violin, and playing in orchestras. **Karen** still does a bit of pastoral visitation with Harold, but her main labor of love—

and joy!—is being the main baby-sitter for two grandsons. **Harold** continues pastoring Trissels and also doing some teaching at a local large men's Bible study and some speaking and writing on the same-sex issue (eg. interactingwithjesus.org/kc) which is splitting our denomination.

Again this year we marvel at the news that the almighty, all-glorious, eternal Creator did not remain aloof when we made a mess of things but came among us as Immanuel, God with us!

Harold & Karen



Lewis loves his Daddy



Miles playing a Sunday afternoon card game with us yesterday

