

December 17, 1985

Dear Folks:

Greetings from Tennessee. Another holiday season is with us. Time goes so fast.

This has been a busy fall for us. This past weekend, our friends from St. Charles came down, and they brought Elsa with them. It was the first time she had ever been here, so it was good that she could come. They came Thursday evening and left Monday morning. One of the big Baptist churches in Jackson has a great musical performance each holiday season, that is called The Living Christmas Tree. We had seen it the past two years, and I knew that our friends would enjoy it, so that was one of the reasons they came down. I think we all had a real good weekend.

We went to Ann & Jim's for thanksgiving. Drove up on Thursday and back on Sunday. it is about a 10 hour drive. It was the first time that we had the opportunity to see their new home. We had a good time. Barbara and Nate were supposed to come too, but the baby was sick, so they had to stay home. We had been together at their house in Bloomington in October when the baby was baptized. Paul was with us at that time too.

We moved into our new church on October 20, so that was a big day for Messiah. We had been meeting in a Catholic school for about four years, so this is very special. It is small, but beautiful.

Mary, Barbara and Ann all fly in on Friday, the 20th. We will be spending the afternoon and early evening at the airport. Barbara and Ann leave again on Tuesday morning, and Mary leaves Wednesday afternoon. Time will be short, but it will be good. We have quality time now instead of quantity time. Paul will be here too, but he will drive and I expect him to stay for a while. Dave and Mary Lou won't be coming. They just bought a house and they have moved into it about two weeks ago. We will miss them, but we did see them in Illinois over Labor Day weekend.

I check up on Art every once in a while. He is enjoying having Helen and her family so close.

Hope you all have a good holiday season. The enclosed picture was taken Labor Day weekend, when we were all together in Illinois. It was taken at Bob's sister's house. Everyone was there except Jim. He was in Michigan.