

Merry Christmas

From the Vermaas Family
Tim, Susan, and Rachel

2024

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Dear Praying Friends,

We want to wish you a very *Merry Christmas* and a *Happy New Year!*

This year has flown by with many blessings and answers to prayer! The biggest blessings this year were the *23 precious souls* who trusted Jesus as their Savior.



One young man (*in NC*) asked Jesus to save him as he was sitting in his seat during the invitation time (he was baptized on Easter Sunday). Two other boys (*in GA*) raised their hands, but waited to accept Christ until that next Sunday. We're so thankful that God continues His work in hearts! An 11-year-old (*in OH*) quickly raised his hand (*and kept it up*). He almost pushed people out of the way to get to the aisle. He came to *Family Crusade* last year (*and even raised his hand one night*), but didn't come forward. We're so glad he came again this year and asked Jesus to save him!

His brother also came and got saved (their sister accepted the Lord during our meeting in 2022). One young lady (*in GA*) came to accept Jesus a **second** time, stating, "*It was so good; I want to get saved again!*" Of course, she was dealt with for Assurance, but oh how wonderful that she had so much joy in making this decision! Two young ladies (*in VA*) came to ask Jesus to save them! One of them was the granddaughter of the *Ladies' Team Captain*. The angels in Heaven weren't the only ones rejoicing over these decisions! **Praise God for all He did in hearts this year!**

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As we have continued to pray concerning the funds to complete our home, a friend from Church felt led to offer us a \$20,000.00, *interest-free* loan to help us get moved-in before Christmas. We were speechless at such a generous offer. Up to this point, we have not considered taking out a loan. We sought much counsel and prayed over this decision for several days, and felt that God was leading us to accept their offer. As we looked at Susan's declining health, it was very clear that she needed to get out of the 5th Wheel so she could begin ridding her body of the black mold that is making her so sick. It was also clear that our home needed to be at a consistent temperature to keep the walls and ceilings from cracking. Several areas already had to be repaired and we surely do not want any further problems. Please pray that God will provide for us to pay back this loan as soon as possible (we accepted \$17,000.00 of the loan to pay for the HVAC and crawlspace encapsulation). We know that God is able, and we praise Him for all He has done to help us see this answer to **many years** of prayer.



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Susan's sisters decided to give us their parents' dining room hutch. This is very special to Susan's family, and she was definitely surprised. We so appreciate their kindness to us! It has been amazing to watch God miraculously provide for every room in our home.



Our last update on November 7th, shared about the things that had recently been done on our home: countertops, sinks, faucets, tiling in the main bathroom and kitchen backsplash, kitchen appliances (for 70% off), doors, and baseboards. What a **blessing** to get these installed! It's been amazing to watch our house turn into a home.

In the last few weeks, the HVAC and ductwork have been installed, the plumbing finished, and we passed the final electrical inspection. Also, a missionary family gave the funds to pay for the fans and bathroom mirrors. What a **blessing** these dear friends have been to us! God used another family to provide for our washer and dryer. How exciting to see all of the pieces falling into place!



Since having been exposed to black mold for so long, we felt the urgency to encapsulate the crawlspace and install a dehumidifier (this will make sure the moisture level is kept at or below 40% to prevent the growth of mold).



Susan's sisters helped with the final clean-up of walls, floors, and furniture just before Christmas. Christmas Eve was our first night to sleep in our new home. We still have a lot to move, and a lot to finish



building, but we are finally moved out of the 5th Wheel. **Praise the Lord!**

A friend has started a **GiveSendGo** fund to help us finish our home. Feel free to follow the progress of the funds raised (<https://www.givesendgo.com/Vermaas>), as well as praying for God's provision.

Please continue to pray for Susan - her health has steadily declined. Every part of her body hurts, and the fatigue is overwhelming. Now that we are living in our new home, she has started a stringent detox to rid her body of the black mold toxins. Please pray for her health to improve soon so she can get back to what she loves doing - sharing the Gospel and ministering for Him. Thank you for your faithful prayers and support! God's "blessings of goodness" are completely overwhelming. He is Faithful and Worthy of all praise and honor.

Reaching Families for Him,

Tim, Susan, & Rachel

Tim, Susan, and Rachel Vermaas
I Samuel 12:24

Fresh Apple Cake

Ingredients:

- 3 Eggs
- 2 C. Sugar
- 1 C. Oil (or melted Butter)
- 2 C. Flour (*self-rising*)
- 1 tsp. Cinnamon
- 1 tsp. Vanilla
- 3 C. Apples (peeled and diced)
- 1 C. Pecans
- 1 C. Fresh Blueberries (dried and tossed in flour)
- 1 C. Raisins (*optional*)

Cream Eggs, Sugar, and Oil together. In a separate bowl, add Flour and Cinnamon and stir with fork until thoroughly combined; add to Sugar mixture and mix by hand until well blended. Add Vanilla and mix well. Fold in remaining ingredients. Pour into greased and floured 9" x 13" cake pan. Bake at 350° F for 1 hour.

For a moist cake, use a quad-loaf pan (4 mini loaves in one) and bake for about 35 minutes.

*The below glaze is not necessary, because the fruit naturally sweetens the cake.

Glaze

- 2 C. Powdered Sugar
- 1 tsp. Vanilla
- Milk

Mix Powdered Sugar, Vanilla, and enough Milk to make a glaze. Drizzle over cake directly after removing from oven. Enjoy hot or cold! Top with Vanilla Ice Cream.

Susan Vermaas

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!