

Kinsey Chronicles 2022

A year to go and grow!



The big event for us this year was taking a trip to Calgary to celebrate Simeon and Carly's first anniversary. (Covid restrictions prevented us from being at their wedding in person last year.) We drove to get there and had an interesting trip. Our aim was to get to Caronport SK for Mother's Day. Ever since our daughter Joy became a mother in 1998 Joyce and Joy had never celebrated Mother's Day together. This year they did. After lunch in Moose Jaw, we went to see Mac the Moose. After some refurbishing and a "Moose Truce" with Norway, Mac regained the title of the tallest moose in the world. The following day we continued our journey to Calgary.



Simeon and Carly, along with Thunder the dog, live in a mobile home in Northwest Calgary. Since taking a job transfer to a Superstore in Calgary, it is a shorter drive to work than when he worked in Airdrie. At the store he manages the Natural Foods Department, and seems to do well in keeping stock moving off the shelves. We all took a day trip to Yoho National Park, just inside the BC border. We hiked a 2.4 km trail to see Wapta Falls, one of the largest waterfalls in British Columbia. Oh, did we mention it was a 2 km hike from the parking lot to the start of the trail? Everyone was exhausted except Thunder. He was just thirsty.



While still in Alberta we extended our stay by a day to watch our granddaughter Alex ref a hockey game as part of the Esso Cup (the national championship for female hockey), which was held in Okotoks, about an hour from Calgary. We joke about most people going to a hockey game to watch the players; we went to watch the refs, especially Alex. The next day we headed back to Caronport SK. We stayed a couple of days there and helped Jason with some of the renos on the home he purchased last year.

Joy still works for Nestlé Canada servicing stores in Regina and elsewhere, setting up displays in Wal-Mart and Shoppers Drug Mart. Her husband, Chad, continues to head up the accounting department at Briercrest College and Seminary, a job he does with distinction. All of the family are deeply involved with hockey. While we were at Caronport we got to have coffee with the pastor of the Church in Caronport, someone we had only seen last year via You Tube.

We returned home in time to take over mowing the lawn from our neighbour who graciously agreed to cut it while we were gone. Dave preached three times at a couple of local churches during July and August. Another one of the churches nearby ran a High Power Soccer program quite successfully. We went to watch and encourage them one morning.

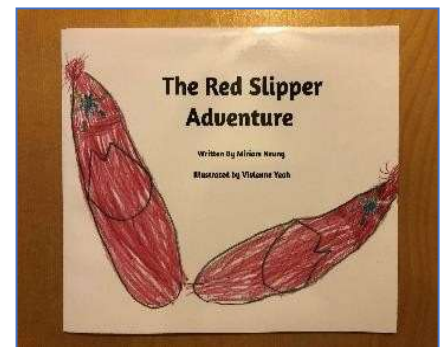
While we didn't get as far as the BC coast in order to visit Nathan and his family, their oldest, Elliott, and his girlfriend came to visit us. He had missed a concert by one of his favourite bands—Twenty One Pilots--last year when the band was in Vancouver, but they were in Toronto this year, so he bought tickets. We also took them to Science North in Sudbury while they were here. However, there must be something about trying to visit Science North with our grandson because our van broke down just like our car did in 2018 when we had planned take him there. But, through the generosity of a friend we were able to borrow her car and still make the trip to Sudbury.



As you can see by this picture from Michelle's grad, the kids are growing up fast. When they went to buy a robe for Autumn this Christmas, they had to buy a women's small! Academically the kids are growing, too. Michelle graduated last spring and Elliott will graduate in June of 2023. Nathan is continuing to develop the Winsome Games ministry and already has a number of camps scheduled for this coming summer both in Ladysmith and around the Island. He also had the joy of coaching Autumn in softball and

Jackson in volleyball. Amber still works for the Vancouver Island Health Authority scheduling Home Support. It is a day job located in Lady Smith. This works well for the family and allows Nathan to continue to work with various churches.

Things are happening for our family in Hong Kong also. Emerson's contract as principal of the International Christian School is up this spring and they are seeking the Lord's direction for what to do next. Emma is also looking for direction following her graduation from high school in the spring. Kennedy, like his dad, plays hockey, earning three gold medals in one week in three tournaments he played in. It was a nail-biter for one game that went into double overtime and a shootout. Did we mention that Kennedy was the goalie? He is now as tall as his sister and his mom. He hopes that growing up helps him fill more of the goal net to block the pucks. Miriam is Kennedy's home school teacher. She also authored a children's book illustrated by a young artist in their village. As a couple, Miriam and Emerson reached a milestone anniversary this year—25 years! And, should we also mention that Emerson turned 50? He is still an active goalie also earning a gold medal this year.



Our Awana ministry in 2022 became more in-person than it was for the previous two years. Events like Handbook Bible Quizzing, Sparks-a-Rama/AwanaGames, and Awana Grand Prix events will be live and in-person this coming year. Dave continues to keep in touch with about 45 churches using the Awana program. We are thankful for a handful of new or returning churches this past fall. One of the new churches came as a result of being an exhibitor at a children's and youth ministry conference in Ottawa in the fall. These conferences are becoming more available now for us to attend and represent Awana. Dave continues to serve as a Sparks leader at our local assembly, being a handbook leader and occasionally giving the Bible lesson.

Joyce's exercise class was more on than off this year. These senior ladies meet Tuesday and Thursday mornings to exercise and listen to Joyce's jokes—we call them her "groaners." Joyce did some baking and Dave delivered plates of goodies to eight of our neighbours whom we remember each year at Christmas. One lady remarked that it is lovely to be remembered every year. Along with the goodies we gave them a Christmas card with the legend of the candy cane. You can read this for yourself on the next page.

Speaking of growing, we are growing also—older it seems. Some things are not as easy to do as they once were. Some of you may know what we are talking about; the rest of you will find out some day. We each lost a family member this year—Joyce's brother and Dave's sister-in-law. Because they were believers, we know we will see them in heaven someday, but nevertheless we grieve their loss. Several from our church also passed away this past year. If you have also lost loved ones, you may find this song—The Sweetest Gift—a comfort to your heart. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0yFXfAGI17M>

It is our wish and prayer that you might know Jesus Christ as your Saviour. Fully God, He took on flesh, came as a baby, but grew up to go to the cross to pay the penalty for sin—yours and mine. He invites you to receive the free gift of salvation He offers by placing your faith in His finished work on Calvary.



We wish you God's best for the coming year!

Dave & Joyce Kinsey

The Legend of the Candy Cane

Many years ago, a candy maker wanted to make a candy at Christmas time that would serve as a witness to his Christian faith.

He wanted to incorporate several symbols for the birth, ministry and death of Jesus. He began with a stick of pure white hard candy; white to symbolize the Virgin Birth and the sinless nature of Jesus; hard to symbolize the solid rock, the foundation of the Church; firmness to represent the promise of God.

The candymaker made the candy in the form of a "J" to represent the name of Jesus, who came to earth as our Savior. He thought it could also represent the staff of the Good Shepherd, with which he reached down into the ditches of the world to lift out the fallen lambs who, like all sheep, have gone astray.

Thinking that the candy was somewhat plain, the candymaker stained it with red stripes. He used three small stripes to show the stripes of the scourging Jesus received, by which we are healed. The large red stripe was for the blood shed by Christ on the cross so that we could have the promise of eternal life. Unfortunately, the candy became known as a candy cane - a meaningless decoration seen at Christmas time.

But the true meaning is still there for those who have eyes to see and ears to hear.

