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December 2021

Here we are again another year older, but still going strong despite the circumstances of this year!



Judy served as Chairman of the Immanuel Lutheran School
Board until August of this year where she had served for 9
years - 6 years as Chairman. Richard, partially retired, still
serves as a Thrivent consultant with Wealth Advisor Matt
Oleson. At Immanuel he serves as Chairman of the
Evangelism & Stewardship Board. We are also associate
members at Faith Lutheran Church, Wesley Chapel, where Kurt is Pastor.
At Faith Richard is Deacon and Judy helps coordinate the 11 am Sunday
morning live broadcast on Facebook, YouTube, and the Faith website.

Being a part of both congregations, we have had to give up choir at Immanuel.

We try to get in 10,000 steps each day, usually walking around the neighborhood. Recently our HOA sponsored building trails though the wooded areas near the Alafia River, so we have enjoyed also walking down to the river's edge. It's a great little hike if you bring your bug spray! (Not needed December - February)

We celebrated with our grandsons, Collin & Aidyn, as they graduated from high school. Aidyn's graduation was held indoors at Tropicana Field, the domed stadium used by the Tampa Bay Rays. Collin's graduation was held outdoors on his school's football field. Problematic in Florida. A few minutes after beginning, everyone ran for cover as it began to pour! Fortunately, in 30 minutes the shower ended and ceremony continued -with everyone standing because their seats were wet. An unforgettable day!

Our 13-day tour to Italy & the Oberammergau Passion Play planned for July 2020 has been postponed to September 2022. Hopefully, nothing will interfere with this trip.

The Covid crisis limited a lot of travel the past two years. Fortunately, Judy's sister, Joyce, was able to fly down and visit this past spring. Then in July, we drove to Linville, NC for our family vacation (18 people under one roof!) The house in the mountains was huge! We hiked to Linville Falls, played disc golf at Beech Mountain, went zip-lining, & enjoyed dinner & music at the city park, what a fantastic time we had together! Our vacation album is posted: Click on the 2021 link at <u>judyandrichsteinbrueck.com</u>

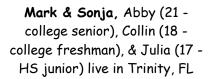
We were saddened by the death of our dear sister-in-law, Joann Steinbrueck, in August. Together with family & friends we were able to celebrate her life and her homecoming into the arms of Jesus at a memorial service she wrote. The music was fantastic, especially the festive "O When the Saints!"

Our Thanksgiving tradition is for the family to gather at our house for dinner in the evening and stay overnight, decorate for Christmas (with a little Black Friday shopping), and have a second "left-over turkey" lunch. Yum! For Christmas we will gather again to celebrate December birthdays Christmas Eve, (Melissa, Kurt, and Mark). Many stay overnight and Christmas morning after breakfast we exchange gifts.

Our three sons and their families still live in the Tampa Bay area and are involved in their churches and the many activities of our eight grandchildren. (Pastor) Kurt leads his little flock at <u>Faith Lutheran</u> <u>Church</u> in Wesley Chapel, Florida. We are seeing God's hand at work as this congregation is beginning to grow. Paul & Mark still run <u>OurChurch.com</u>, which serves the Christian community, and <u>Skywayweb.com</u>, for the secular community. If your church, school, or business needs a more effective web site, contact them! We are blessed to have our children living close by & are able to see them often.



Paul & Jennifer, Aryn (14 - HS freshman) Ainsley (20 - college junior), & Aidyn (18 - college freshman), live in Safety Harbor, FL







Kurt, Melissa, & Kaylee (12 - 7th grade) & Eli (4 - VPK preschool) live in Wesley Chapel, FL

Richard was diagnosed with bladder cancer in early December 2019. He is free of cancer now but will undergo 3 immunotherapy treatments twice a year for several years. Pray for continued good health for him.

We pray that as you and your families celebrate Christmas, Jesus will be at the center of all. May God bless you in every way in the year to come.

Judy & Rich Steinbrueck

May the God of hope fill you with all joy & peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. Romans 15:13