

MERRY CHRISTMAS

2012 BUCKNELL FAMILY LETTER

2012 CHRISTMAS GREETINGS!



“My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled”
—Jesus
(John 14:27).

Dear Family and Friends,

What comfort to know Jesus is the Prince of Peace. Our inner peace doesn't stem from tranquil circumstances or exercises like yoga, but from God's constant and assuring care through Jesus.

*“For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, **Prince of Peace.** 7 There will be*

PEACE

no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this” (Isaiah 9:6-7).

Noises of war and alarm are sounding in our world and often in people's hearts. May we unabashedly proclaim Jesus who brings true inner peace, not by taking lives, but by sacrificing His life for others. How we rejoice in the Prince bringing peace between God and man as well as between human beings!

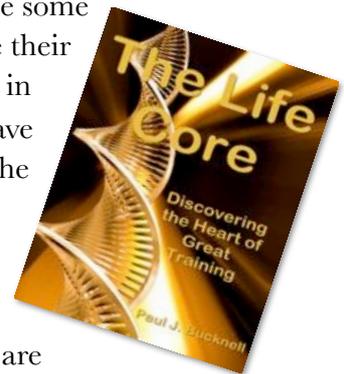
Paul & BFF Ministry

[Biblical Foundations for Freedom](#)

Paul has kept up his 2-3 week international trips in 2012. Besides visiting Malawi and Ethiopia, both in Africa, for the first time he held training seminars in the Philippines. Each trip further deepens Paul's appreciation for every country and culture. While some Muslims terrorize their homelands, those in the Philippines have made peace with the Philippine government.

New training videos (now 400+) are augmented by new books and materials. Paul was personally enriched by new insights further crystalized through his new book, [The Life Core: Discovering the Heart of Great Training](#).

The Seed Project, the free distribution of BFF's many resources via 'the cloud' to certain areas, is on the launch pad. Any smart phone users will be able to take advantage of BFF resources. [Sign up](#) for



Paul & Linda

Family life is delightful and full of changes/challenges. This year, Allison turned 21 and Isaac entered his teen years. Daniel got his driver's license and two others got their permits. Paul is now training the sixth child, Kathryn, to drive (and does she love to drive)!

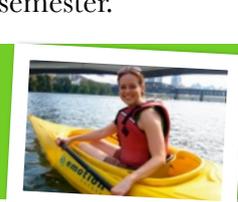
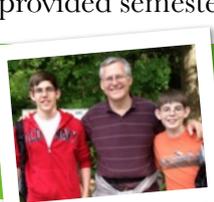
We have been homeschooling for about 25 years now. This year our two oldest students, Benjamin and Kathryn, enrolled in a virtual charter school. This has worked out well. Though we continue to homeschool our two youngest, our student enrollment has been reduced in

half which fits well with our reduced energy and focus. Things come harder for both of us. Things to remember become forgotten more quickly.

Paul was able to hike Mt.

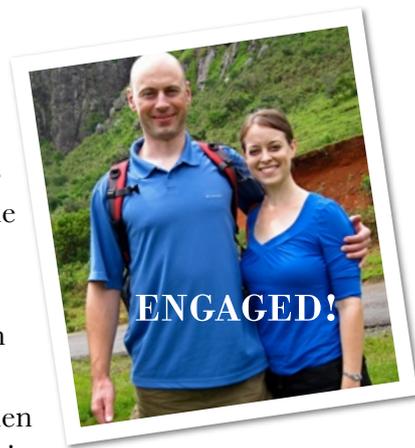
Lincoln (mile high with the boys) again but it just might be his last time! He likes using Siri to help him keep track of things, while Linda loves her word games—when not mixing one of her new herbal concoctions. We drove to Florida in the winter with 5 of the kids and to New England in the summer. Great family times included a trip to the Aeronautic and Space Museum outside D.C. As a Smithsonian, it was free and included an

excellent tour. It is great to be able to regularly see our grandchildren—even during our small group Bible study.



Elizabeth

Elizabeth traveled to Cameroon, Africa on a missions trip this summer. She and a few other women had the opportunity to teach women there while Brooks joined the men in the team to teach in other venues. They continue to enjoy their time together and are pleased to announce that they got engaged on Saturday, December 22! No date has been set yet, but they look forward to this new adventure.



Elias, Christy, Joshua, 5 and Brianna, 2

Elias and Christy continue to lead the youth group, but are happy to welcome our new Children and Youth pastor. They are slowly transitioning out of their position but keep active with other church activities. With two young children they have many challenges including homeschooling Joshua. Christy also had a special opportunity to go to Puerto Rico with one of her long time friends and other bridesmaids.



Allison 21, now a junior at Union University, loves her Creative Writing major. This was her first semester with all A's!

She is sad to see her job at the inner city Christian cafe end. She is delighted in being able to get a few courses done during the short month term in January due to a special scholarship. She praises God for how He has faithfully provided semester by semester.



Daniel, 19, has been looking for full-time work. He is glad to have his license. He has been able to keep up his long distance biking.



Benjamin almost 18, hasn't done as much baking but has done well transitioning to the virtual school. As a senior he was able to take an English



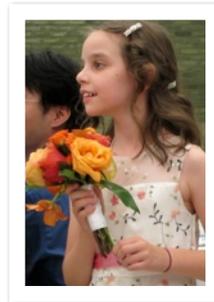
composition class at the community college (and get an A). Next semester he takes two courses, more closely aligned with his interest in designing computer games. He loves using his new 5th generation iPod Touch.



Rebekah 11, loves talking to others. She has recently begun mastering some basic cooking skills including baking cookies along with her sister, Kathryn.

We all look forward to Elizabeth's upcoming wedding to Brooks White.

Kathryn 16, has been honing in her cooking skills for her gluten free diet. She loves trying out new things like driving and playing the banjo. Her favorite thing to do is taking classes at the virtual school.



Isaac

13, along with Benjamin and Dad headed for the peaks of three tall mountains, in the White Mountains of NH. It was Isaac who dared to brave the rapids of a New Hampshire river and slide along the smooth rocks while others watched.



As always, we appreciate hearing from you all.

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