

Advent 2022

To our family and friends: Greetings!

We've had another interesting year. Jim flunked a PSA test, got a biopsy for prostate cancer, and began radiation treatments. There were 45 tedious sessions, and supposedly they have a cure rate of 99%. So far so good.

On Mother's Day Jan-Luc announced that his wife Olivia was eligible for the honor. Josey Loreley was born November 10th and is doing great. Who is Loreley? A mountain, a siren, an opera, a legend: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lorelei>

In October we went on a tour of Greece with a charity group. The theme was "The Footsteps of St. Paul" and we got to see many of the places he preached, set up churches, and wrote letters to: Thessaloniki, Philippi, Ephesus, Corinth. Places of Biblical mentions: Athens, Berea, Patmos, Rhodes. Plus more Greek antiquities and tourist spots. Six days on the road, and a short cruise: <https://celestyal.com/us/our-cruises/4-nights-us/iconic-aegean-4-nights/>

This summer we bought the acre lot next door in a tax auction. It's been overgrown with brush, trash trees, and weeds for 25 years, so it will take a while to tame. The garden kept us busy, also. We harvested 29 pounds of garlic and 66 pounds of onions, and we still have a freezer full of other veggies. The onions seem to predict a normal winter. Jim has been experimenting with biochar, an ancient soil improvement and carbon sequestering method.

Our children and grandchildren continue their hectic lives. Ask them about particulars. Enjoy the rest of our website, with visuals and bonus features: <http://vandammes.freehostia.com/>

Jim & Mary Margaret and the extended Van Damme family