

## Merry Christmas

---

Dear Friends & Family,

As we embark upon this holiday season, we eagerly anticipate your annual tidings. Our big news for 2017 continues to be our grandson, Grey Golden, who is 19 months and captivates us by his enthusiasm and wonder.



In February, Chris, Danielle, Grey and dog Lucy moved into their own place, a 1BR 1.5 miles away. Danielle is now bar manager at a popular SLO bar and restaurant. Chris drives for Uber, and works at a comic bookstore. They continue their parent education class with Grey, while also attending Toddler Time Storytime at the local



library. Grey has been to gymnastics and swim school. The highlight of the year was Grey's first birthday in May, when Golden grandparents Roger and Judy and

Uncle Brian and David came to celebrate.

It was a festive occasion for all.

Brian continues working at the historical piano bar, The Alley, in Oakland with partner David. When not working, they enjoy time in David's family home in



Stockton. We were delighted to host their visit in May and eagerly anticipate a reunion at Christmas.

Our focus, besides family, has been the launch of [SLO Village](#) to help seniors "age in place" and remain in their own homes by providing volunteer services, referrals to vetted businesses, and social connections. In February, we opened our doors, after a successful "soft start" for 3 months. Dave manages our software, website, newsletters, marketing materials, and has made 14 presentations to local civic and faith-based groups. He is also President of our Board of Directors, while I am Treasurer and Volunteer Coordinator. We were featured in an [article \(and video\)](#) in our local newspaper

After five years as Moderator of our UCC SLO church, Dave retired in January. I retired as Chair of the Ministry of Spiritual Life, managing our worship team of volunteers. In July, we hosted families and single women from the homeless shelter for the final time, as the new expanded shelter is scheduled to open in 2018.



Travel included a trip to Palm Springs with friends Kathy and Ed in January; Dave's birthday in Santa Barbara in May; celebration of Dave's mom's 94<sup>th</sup> birthday in Fresno in August; trip to the Pacific

Northwest, and a stay at a [lighthouse](#) . Monterey Jazz Festival on my birthday in September; Baltimore, MD for the national Village conference in November.



On the home front, we welcomed Dave's Mom and his sister Linda with friend Dennis in May, and Linda and Dennis and dogs again in October.



In his spare time this summer, Dave designed and built a new front fence that curves at the corners.



As we look forward to our family gatherings and celebrations with friends, we wish all of you a joyous Christmas and many blessings in the New Year.

Love,

Meg & Dave

[meg@velcrosworld.com](mailto:meg@velcrosworld.com)

[dave@velcrosworld.com](mailto:dave@velcrosworld.com)

P.S. Check out more photo highlights from 2017 on [www.velcrosworld.com](http://www.velcrosworld.com)

---