

# Merry Christmas from Meg, Dave, Chris, Danielle and Grey

Dear Friends & Family,

As we embark upon this holiday season, we eagerly await your annual tidings. Our big news for 2016 is the birth of our grandson, Grey Roger Golden, on Mother's Day, May 8, 2016. At 41 weeks pregnant, and after 35 hours of labor, we were all delighted to welcome Grey who weighed in at 8lb/8oz and 21 in long. Grey (at this writing) is 6 months (29 weeks) old and weighed 18lb/7oz on 11/12. He is a continual wonder as he experiences the world and develops new skills with great enthusiasm. Grey's grandparents, Roger and Judy, visited Grey while still in the hospital in May, and then July and December.



After traveling from San Francisco for monthly OBY/GYN visits in SLO, Chris and Danielle moved in March and the family has been living with us ever since. Danielle returned to work part-time as a "mixologist"/bartender in September, while Chris has worked on a short-term local filming project for the U.S. Army troops in training for deployment in the Middle East. They have also managed (along with Grey) to attend a class for new parents of 0-6 month babies.



We have been working hard to develop SLO Village [www.slovillage.org](http://www.slovillage.org) to help seniors "age in place" and



remain in their own homes. We are now live with a "Soft Start" to test out our operation before we launch our grand opening in 2017. Dave has developed software, website,

newsletters, marketing materials, and made numerous presentations to local civic groups. He is also President of our Board of Directors, while I am Treasurer. We are most grateful for our team of Board Members and volunteers who are so enthused.

Dave has completed five years as Moderator of our SLO UCC and will "retire" in 2017. He was instrumental in completing our Church Renewal project, with an internal and external retrofit for ADA compliance and state licensing of our resident preschool. I am stepping down, after two years as Chair of the Ministry of Spiritual Life, managing our worship team of volunteers. I am anticipating that 2017 will be my final year in leading our efforts to host families and single women from the homeless shelter each night in July, as ground breaking for the new homeless shelter began in November.

We were saddened by the loss of Dave's brother-in-law, Herb, who passed away in June. We gathered with sister Linda and family members for a full military tribute and honors at the National Cemetery in Phoenix. As we were about to return home, I found myself in ER with overnight observation in the hospital for a fainting spell and prolonged low heart rate/blood pressure. Upon return, my cardiologist implanted a heart monitor to determine whether I am a candidate for a pacemaker.



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Besides travel to Phoenix, we have celebrated Dave's birthday in Santa Barbara, spent time with friends at Lake Tahoe in August, and celebrated my 70<sup>th</sup> while attending the Monterey Jazz Festival in September. In August, we celebrated Dave's mother's 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday with her friends in Fresno. We also traveled to Oakland in January for the formation of the California Village Coalition and attended the national Village-to-Village conference in Columbus, Ohio in October. Along with Brian, we helped Chris and Danielle move from San Francisco in March.



Brian and David continue working at the historical piano bar, The Alley, in Oakland. Brian attended classes in Landscape Design and Small Business Administration at Merritt

College and performed on stage and helped direct Laney College Theatre Arts production of *Mas*. He joined Chris and Danielle for their baby shower in San Francisco. We are looking forward to a family reunion.



As we anticipate 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

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P.S. Check out more photo highlights from 2016 on [www.velcrosworld.com](http://www.velcrosworld.com)

