

Dear friends of Vital Signs Ministries,

January 2026

December is now in the books. And what a December it was! This LifeSharer letter will very briefly describe some of the month's brightest moments with a few photographs on the reverse side as well.

1) I'll begin with our wonderfully Christmassy church services on Sunday afternoon at Aksarben Village Senior Living. We sometimes boast that we provide the best music of any church in Omaha and our December services were a marvelous case in point. The Gracias Choir. The orchestra and choir of First Baptist Dallas. The Petersen Family. A duet with Tennessee Ernie Ford and Gordon MacRae. And many others.

Our sermons at Aksarben Village covered the prophecy of Isaiah 9, the angel's message to the shepherds, the Bethlehem scene, and the visit of the magi. They are really profound texts with interesting and relevant applications. Of course, there are always the warmhearted conversations of 30-45 minutes afterward shared over cookies, candy, coffee and lemonade, and on one December Sunday, a beautiful and delicious birthday cake. At another service we presented Christmas gifts to the residents, courtesy of Vital Signs, Eunice Roos, and the 5th graders at St. Cecelia's School.

2) In December we always add Christmas carols to our prayers and pro-life witness outside the barbaric Planned Parenthood abortion business. We occasionally sing hymns there in other seasons too, but this is a special way for us to joyfully witness to Christ's triumph over the darkness.

3) There has also been our hosting this month of what might be a record number of our Christmas dinner parties. Indeed, by the time we enjoy our last party on Epiphany, we will have hosted **12** of them this season with a total of 68 guests – give or take a couple! We are so very, very blessed to be able to practice this tradition and each gathering this year has been a terrific time of festivity, faith, and forward-looking fellowship. Also, the number is greater still when we count those receiving “Santa runs” where we take along treats to folks who can't get out and about **or** taking friends out for breakfast, lunch, or coffee where we can catch up.

4) Oh my; I mustn't leave out our Christmas “When Swing Was King” shows in December. Wow. Always heartwarming and inspirational, the audiences this season seemed more enthusiastic and appreciative than ever. And here too we believe we tied a record -- **17** “When Swing Was King” Christmas shows! That's right -- 17 of them! And two of those we presented in Branson, Missouri!

5 and more) This Christmas season there were an awful lot of cookies baked, decorated, and then distributed in our “Santa Runs” to neighbors and friends. There was also the Top 5 compiled every Saturday; autographing a lot of copies of my novel *The Christmas Room*; writing a pretty pile of correspondence; and serving as a co-presenter at the Grace Bible Church Christmas Eve service. What a Christmas season, indeed.

But, as I said, December is now in the books and we are already well into January's challenges. Those not only include all of our regular ministry duties but also our getting a neighbor to and from the airport; Claire's hosting of a Ladies Tea (on Christmas Day 12) at Aksarben Village Senior Living; the Nebraska Right to Life Gala banquet and the next morning's Walk for Life in Lincoln; doing an interview for Assure Women's Center looking back at its founding 40 years ago; completing a series of advocacy letters (government officials, McDonalds, the NFL, Chick-Fil-A, the government of Malta); participating in the March for Life in Washington D.C.; and my getting a dental crown and undergoing cataract surgery.

In the meantime, please “stay tuned” with us through our Facebook pages and the Vital Signs Ministries website which will be undergoing some bold new changes in the New Year. May the Lord Jesus bless you all abundantly in this New Year. And thank you so much for your prayers, financial support, and encouragement as we seek to “stay the course” for the Lord Jesus through Vital Signs Ministries.

Denny (for Claire too)

