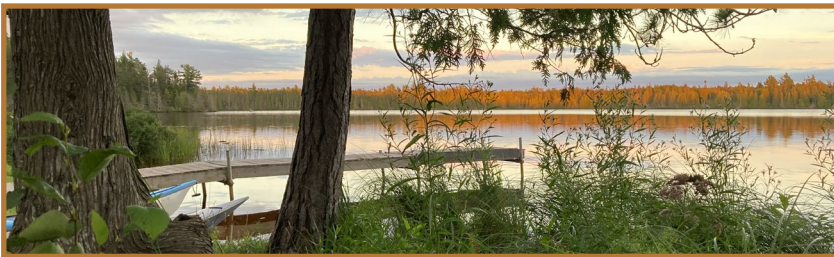


Christmas, December 25, 2021

Hello friends and Christmas greetings!

This year I'm channeling my grandfather Dunn: simplifying our holiday with a Christmas tree made with the slats of a wooden venetian blind, just in time for a family Christmas photo.

We've avoided COVID with KN-95 masks, vaccinations and boosts. We've been very circumspect about travel, but we did drive from Denver to Lake Wobegon Country: Culhane Lake, one hour west of the Soo in the U.P. Our first long drive with Buda was a wonderful respite in *the new abnormal*.



Burna taught English classes via Zoom and was able to return to her weekly gig as lobby pianist at the University of Colorado Hospital. She reports that in her Michigan and Indiana families, all the women (Jenny and Sarah) are strong, talented and good cooks; all the men (Bill and Tyler) are good looking and deeply caring; and all the children (Audrey, Maddy, Will and Bennett; Emma [& Zac], Grace and Matthew) are adults and way above average.

I stepped away from a volunteer role as a deacon at Church of the Holy Family (ECC) in September. I've published two booklets in collaboration with Jan Sanders, Burna's and my ICA-related colleague in Toronto: *Rituals in the Field: Nepal* and a memorial booklet for family and friends of Jan's husband, who died in April.

Buda is nearly full grown and a fierce runner. We visit Cherry Creek State Park off-leash area regularly. The mountain views are spectacular.



Steve Dunn and his wife Lynn live in Boulder. He works at Liberty Puzzles and is the public address announcer for USA Ultimate nat'l tournaments. Lynn is the Asst. Dir. of the Univ. of Colorado. Children's Ctr. Ruah Dunn is a home care aide in Romulus, MI and begins a 2nd job in January. I'm learning grandfathering with Ruah's adult children: Tierra, Nia & her two kids, Tony, and Terrance & his two kids.

Every blessing this new year!

Burna

This year's gifts to share.

The Welcoming Prayer

Welcome, welcome, welcome.

I welcome everything that comes to me today because I know it's for my own healing.

I welcome all thoughts, feelings, emotions, persons, situations and conditions.

I let go of my desire for power and control.

I let go of my desire for affection, esteem, approval and pleasure.

I let go of my desire for survival and security.

I let go of my desire to change any situation, condition, person or myself.

I open to the love and presence of God and God's grace and healing action within. Amen.

(attributed to Mary Mrozowski and Fr. Thomas Keating)

David Recommends

- Fr. Richard Rohr, *Falling Up* and *Immortal Diamond*
- Dr. Connie Zweig, *The Holy Longing* (2003) and *The Inner Work of Age* (2021)

Burna Recommends

- Richard Osman, *The Thursday Murder Club*
- Frank Ostaseski, *The Five Invitations*

Music Festivals

We listened to three



Voces8 Foundation

"LIVE From London" choral festivals this year,

all with fantastic ensembles and performances. Streaming concerts on TV is wonderful.



This Wasan Hammadi painting brightens our living room.

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