**Christmas 2014**

**Dear Family and Friends,**

**Greetings from the Koos Family! What an amazing year it has been for us. As many of you know, we moved from the Twin Cities to Nebraska for Sean’s first pastorate at Trinity Lutheran Church in DeWitt. In the course of a week, Tori completed her sophomore year at Roseville High School, we moved, and Sean was ordained.   The church provided us with a beautiful home and a large yard, and God provided us with wonderful new friends that continue to give to us so generously.**

**Sean has felt a confirmation of his calling here at Trinity Lutheran. He has officiated a wedding, funerals, and baptisms as well as enjoyed his routine responsibilities of preaching and visitation. He is enjoying a new truck as well. We were able to purchase a Ford Ranger pick-up truck in August. He has appreciated the better gas mileage, hauling capabilities, and 4-wheel drive.**

**I have been very blessed during this time of transition. I was able to keep the job that I’ve held for over 10 years and have transitioned to working 100% remotely. I have a new hobby: bowling. I hope to improve my average of 85 by the end of the bowling season. I was also invited and accepted a position on the library board in DeWitt. I thank my many friends, new and old, for their encouraging presence in my life.**

**Tori turned sixteen in June and so was able to get her driver’s license. She entered her junior year at Tri County School in September and then recently was able to get her first job at Valentino’s restaurant in the nearby town of Beatrice. She made front page news (Beatrice Daily Sun) when she participated in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Math Bowl. She also joined the drama team and Spanish club. Tori has become a beautiful and intelligent young woman and we are very proud of her.**

**Sam is attending school at Precious Lambs Preschool in Plymouth. She eagerly looks forward to her three days of school and the social interaction it promises. She joined a dance class that focuses on both ballet and jazz. Sam celebrated her 5th birthday in November. Her sunny disposition and comic faces delight us all.**

**Jaime turned three in August. She also started “school” of a sort. Tri County has provided a speech teacher to work weekly with Jaime on her pronunciation. We will be sorry when she no longer says “me is smart”, but we have already noticed a marked improvement in her speech and am thankful. With her sweet smile and generous heart, Jaime is a dear to anyone that knows her.**

**Lincoln has had a big year of change. He turned one in January, started walking in March, and seemingly was running the next day. He has a rapidly expanding vocabulary that includes “bubbles”, “stinky”, and even, “no, Tori”. We’ll have to start him on his “Husker” lingo before the next season.**

**Let us celebrate new beginnings and the birth of the ultimate giver of life. We pray that you all find comfort in Him who gives us life and, if we repent and trust in Jesus Christ, we may celebrate with Him one glorious day. Until that day, we hope and pray that you all have a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

**With Much Love,**

**Sean, Jo, Tori, Sam, Jaime, & Lincoln Koos**