



# Oak Haven Happenings

December 2020

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## **A great big greeting to all of our friends & family!**

**The Covid pandemic** has made 2020 a challenging year. I'm sure, like you and your family, we have all been both careful in our interactions with others, but also trying to live life as normally as possible.

**Here are some positive things** that have come from this year for us:

**Life has become simpler with less commitments.** Between lock-downs and social distancing, Oak Haven Photography ground to a complete halt. Fortunately, retiring was in our short-term plans anyway. We obviously have had to give up some things, but that has allowed us to restore more margin to our life.

**Relationships have become a higher priority.** It's too easy to take things for granted when you're confident what tomorrow will bring.

**More time at home to get projects done.** (Or at least we've gotten closer to getting some of our projects done 😊.)

**A good time to try something new.** We started a YouTube channel called **The Woodland Steward** this Spring. Jim is passionate about preserving the natural environment and also in sharing that passion with others. This format has been a perfect avenue for him to reach many people with his knowledge, enthusiasm and experience. He has videos on removing invasives in the woods and just started a new series identifying plants from the car. Check it out!

**Lots of time to spend many enjoyable hours in our woods.** Weeding garlic mustard in the Spring, spraying stilt grass in the Summer, and cutting honeysuckle, autumn olive, and burning bush in the Fall. You may wonder why I say enjoyable when it can be a lot of work. I think because we find it so rewarding to restore our woods. Plus being out in the woods is our happy place.

**And lastly, the realization that each day is a gift.**

**Let's remember God's ultimate gift to us by sending His son, Jesus Christ to save us from our sins.** *For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son, that whoever believes in Him should not die, but have everlasting life. John 3:16*



Julie, Hosanna (6), Philip, James (1), Kristin, Matthew (12), Abigail (2), Robert (13), Laken (9), Gabriella(14), and John (7)

Juniper (3), Brian, & Liz



Jennifer, Aubrey (5), Bryan, & Evelyn (3)



Corey & Michelle