

## Reflection of the LAAMB

The other night, Lore said to me, “let’s take a walk around the block to look at the Christmas lights around our neighbourhood. I was working on the computer and really wanted to finish something that I had been working on for over two hours. Lore gave me that little smirk, which I know by now is saying, you have been working hard enough, let’s take a break! So I reluctantly got off the computer.

As I was getting my coat on, Lore said, “remember the days during advent when we used to take the kids for a drive after supper to see some of the Christmas lights. I replied, half heartily, “Yea I remember.”

Then she said, “remember that time when we were in your hometown Sudbury and we went for a drive to see the lights in a new neighbourhood. We ended up meeting one of your friends from high school. He invited all of us in for hot

chocolate. And

then to everyone’s surprise he showed us his train set that went from his rec room into another

room. We were all mesmerised by his trains, the landscape he created and the village that surround it all.” Then I replied, “well, I hope you are not expecting me to have a friend like that in Wiarton!” She



laughed as we went out into the dark night.

But it wasn’t long before we started walking down a street where we saw several beautiful lit up Christmas ornaments: A bright reindeer with lights all around it.



Stars at the front of someone’s entrance, beautifully arranged. A Christmas tree with coloured star lights on it! A front lawn with several Christmas trees made of lights. By now I could hear Lore humming a Christmas song. Before I knew it, I was humming the same song. Lore grabbed my hand and said, “isn’t this wonderful!!” Now I was smiling, and getting into the Christmas spirit.

It’s strange because I had walked by many of these lit up displays before at 5:30am in the morning, but they didn’t seem as life changing to me. In fact, some of the lights made me think of all the work I had to do before Christmas.



Sometimes I need to see things through somebody else’s eyes. We often say Christmas is for Children. It is but it is also for adults! Children help us to see Christmas through a different lens. A lens that shows that anything is possible, anything can happen. Reindeer can fly. A pregnant woman can travel over many days though rough terrain to have her child in a most unlikely place. A bright star can light up the whole sky leading astronomers over many months to finally discover the Christ Child some time, much later, after his birth. Our fears can be alleviated. We can work through challenges that we once thought were insurmountable. But I don’t need children to see all these things. Their unique perspective helps but what I really need is community. Notice that all these people accomplish all these things with a community around them. We very rarely accomplish anything life changing on our own. God gives us community for a reason. It makes life more meaningful, giving us a sense of purpose. Community still goes on, even though, today, we live with social distancing and pandemic restrictions. We can still call someone, we can be with them

on the computer, we can visit them outside of their home from a safe distance. Community still goes on during a pandemic....it's what keeps us alive.

When Lore and I walked back into our home, someone was watching the news on TV. I heard the word virus several times. Then I thought to myself. Lore and I didn't think of this Pandemic once while we were watching those lights and humming those songs. Miracles still happen...thank God for community!!!

Pastor Perry