## Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!

©
2015 will go down as a most momentous year! Matt and Cassie got married in the gazebo overlooking Laguna Beach on May $10---5 / 10 / 15$ ! We are so happy to have a daughter-inlove! She is a lovely, kind, talented woman, so perfect for Matt! Matt continues to work at Nickelodeon. He began the year working on a preschoollevel show called Wally Kazam and now he is working on a new show that he is, thus far, not allowed to name. His job title has changed from "finaler" to "pre-vis," which means that instead of catching mistakes at the end, he is now part of the beginning steps of the artwork.

Cassie works for Disney TV as a production coordinator for a show called 7D (as in Seven Dwarves). She also does a lot of education to help other young women get into animation. Together they also create an on-line cartoon entitled "Nerds with Beards," which displays their unique sense of humor. If you don't get it, you're probably not a nerd.

This is a sample of her art.


Dale and I have done a lot of travelling this year and I am actually hoping to be home more in 2016. We have been to Washington, DC, Sacramento/Bay Area, Kings Canyon (which burned in a wildfire less than a month later), Texas (Dallas/Waco/San
Antonio), New York City and Crisfield, Maryland, and Nashville. Kings Canyon was this year's extended-family camping trip. New York City was a short excursion on our way to our mission trip in Crisfield. The rest were all ministry-related. God has given us so many opportunities! And while Dale usually serves as tech crew and stuffschlepper, Nashville marked the first time that he joined Sharon in presenting a workshop---and at our first interdenominational conference at that!


In front of one of the Christmas trees in Nashville

In addition to trips with Dale, Sharon also went with her mom to visit her aunt and uncle in Todos Santos, Baja California Sur. Their home is a retreat for her---a little piece of heaven on earth!

Sharon's final trip of 2015 was to Asheville, North Carolina where she spent a week in a class to become a deaconess! This was an amazing experience with 14 amazing future deaconesses/home missioner (the male equivalent). A deaconess is someone who is called to lifetime ministry that is outside of the church. Deaconesses work for social justice in many capacities, paid or unpaid. Sharon has found a community with her classmates that will give her encouragement and strength to continue the DisAbility Ministry that she has been doing for over three years now. She continues as the chair of the denominational committee and of the conference task force and is also working on starting a committee at her local church.

Dale continues to enjoy retirement, especially the freedom to travel with Sharon and spend more time doing work at church. In September, he spearheaded a project to install new flat screen smart TVs and DVD players in our Sunday School classrooms. He also maintains and improves the sound system and other technology throughout the church, including upgrading internet access. This month he has also been working as a consultant for the company where he used to work full-time, reviewing work done by other contractors since he was laid off in 2013 and educating current staff. We find the irony sweet and the money unbelievable!

We are both still members of the church choir. Dale has sung duets with George Kawamura from the Nozomi (Japanese) congregation in joint worship and a solo with the choir in this year's Christmas concert. Dale serves on the Trustees and Sharon will begin a term on the Staff-Parish Relations Committee in January. Belonging to Irvine University United Methodist Church continues to be very important in our lives and we are grateful for our church family and for God's continuing grace.

With much love,

## Dale and Sharon McCart

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Check out "Cal-Pac Resources for DisAbility Ministries" on Facebook and www.umdisabilityministries.org to see what Sharon is up to these days!

