

# Slowly Decorating

I have been MIA for the last week. It all started Thanksgiving morning. I woke up full of energy and excitement for the holiday. Mid-morning I suddenly had the worst abdominal pains, which was the beginning of a wave of vomiting and the "other". The good Lord gave me a break long enough to get dinner on the table. That night I again, got really sick.

Then it was gone. I can only attribute the food poisoning symptoms to the sushi I ate the night before. Note to self: Do not eat sushi before hosting Thanksgiving dinner.

48 hours later I came down with the worst cold/flu virus and have been literally out of commission for the last week. I haven't been sick in 20 years so I guess I was long overdue.

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. In spite of the crud, it was a truly wonderful day. There is nothing better than having the house filled with those you love. Tried taking the annual family holiday photo and there was a lot of this....



and this....*sigh*....But I was able to get one or two good photos eventually!



Usually by now, I am well into Christmas decorating. Fortunately, my husband made significant progress in the outdoor ones. Getting the huge wreath up on the front of the well tower requires agility and balance!





The guest cottage has its own Christmas colors~~ just adding a lighted wreath seems appropriate.





Since I am not feeling 100% well yet, I am tackling the easy stuff. The family room sofa gets a seasonal slipcover change ~~hence the velvet forest green and holiday pillows.





Hanging the wreaths in the windows is another easy task. Click [here](#) to see a previous post on this.



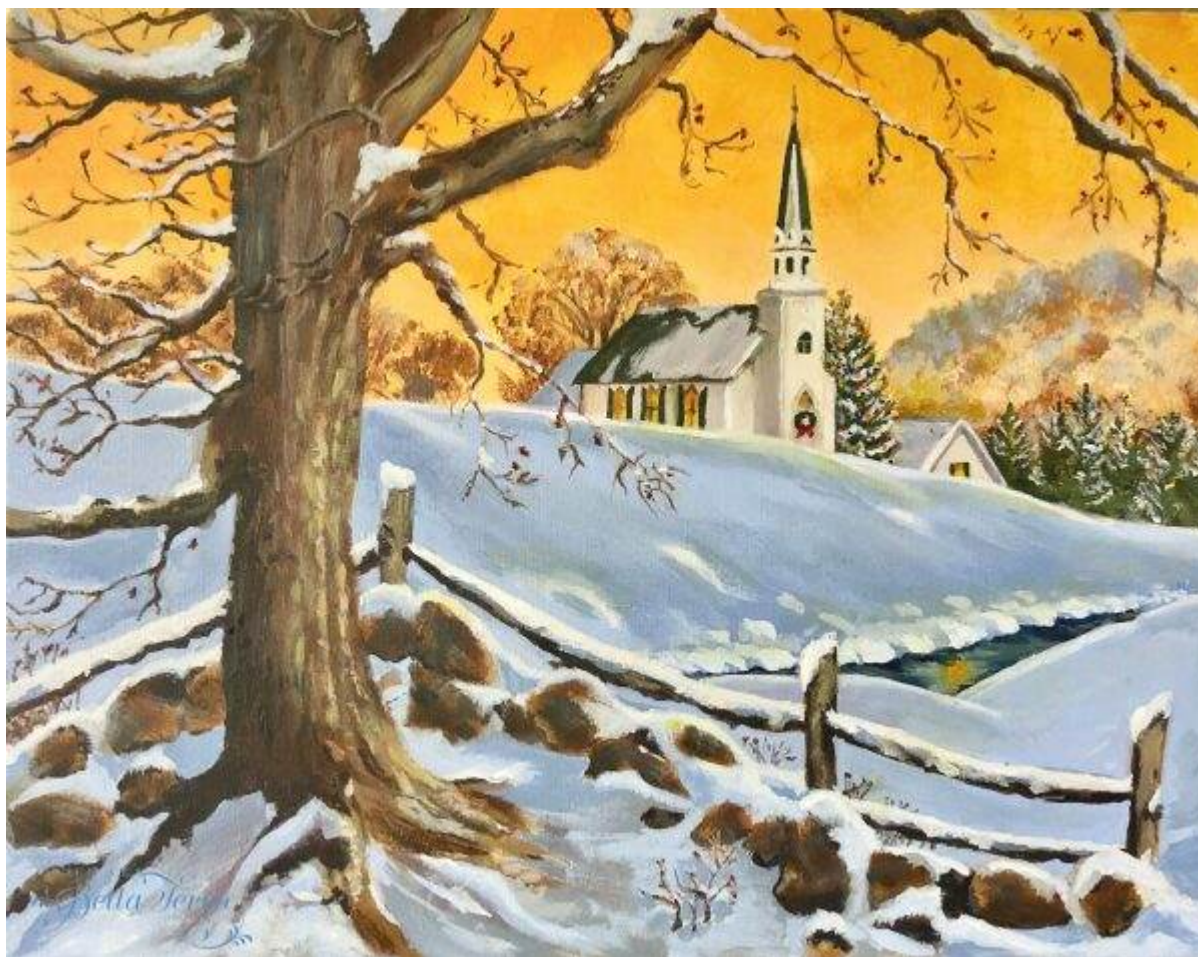
Several years ago we received a gift of a paint-by-numbers Santa. We worked on it every year, a little at a time. Last



year we finally completed it, had it framed and now it proudly hangs as one of our holiday pieces of art. What a fun tradition this would be! Have you seen some of the paint-by-numbers paintings? They are very attractive!



The only good thing about being sick for a week was I started and finished my annual holiday painting. When I began painting 3 years ago, I decided to try and create a new one for each holiday.



There is much to do but it all magically comes together each and every year. Wishing you a healthy December!

Mary