

Greetings from the Giessels!

It has been another busy year here, with lots of fun and growth. Our family is extremely grateful for all the events of this past year, and hope the next is even better. But whatever comes our way, be it good times or bad, we pray that we trust the Lord in ALL things and never forget how wonderfully, and undeservedly, we have been cared for by Him.

The wonderful head of our household is still working as hard as always, giving his all to provide for us. Peter has had many interesting and challenging projects at Reid Middleton this year, including seeing his own bridge erected at the Creekside center! Peter also had the privilege of giving a presentation on Creekside at the Western Bridge Engineer's Seminar in Sacramento, this past September. As he faces a continued busy work schedule, with both company and personal projects, please pray that Peter gets enough restoration and relaxation as he continues to work so hard.

Callie has turned into such a big girl, right before our eyes! This past year her vocabulary exploded, and now she talks our ears off with the skill of a practiced pro. She is a very polite child, full of "please" and "thank you's", and shares very well with her little sister. She's healthy, precocious, and has a mild and happy temperament (most of the time, anyway!). Our prayer for her this year is that she continues to grow and thrive, learning more about God and His amazing world.



Not to be outdone by big sister, Lilah is quite the character and a bubbly blast of energy. She has a mouth full of teeth, a solid sprint, and a battery of odd (but enthusiastic!) utterances that she is currently using in place of English. She can throw quite the dramatic tantrum, but just like big sister, Lilah is a joy most of the time. She does tend to hunt around looking for the next bit of trouble she can get into, but it is awfully hard to reprimand her when she is so darn cute! As Lilah exerts her very strong will, please pray that we will be steadfast in training her up in the ways of our Lord.

As for me, I have been overwhelmed by the joy (and responsibility) of watching and caring for my beautiful children, and helping Peter maintain our home. Two little ones under foot can be quite the whirlwind of messes and laughter, with lots of kisses and hugs peppered in, and I am just trying to savor these baby days! My personal projects have been focused on the home - mainly in improved home management and faithfulness to the Lord in my daily work. Please pray for my growth as a Christian woman and constancy in all the little areas of my day.

We continue to rely on the love and encouragement of our friends and family to aid us as we meet life's inevitable challenges as well. Thank you for blessing us so richly with your presence in our lives, and thanks be to our Lord for his loving sacrifice for us all!

With Joy,

*Peter, Taryl, Callie, and Lilah Giessel.*