

Dear Family and Friends,

Another busy year has passed, and sees us all in good spirits, good health, and looking forward to all the blessings and trials the next year will bring. Your continued prayers for us have been so appreciated, and we can clearly see the Lord's guidance in our lives through the people and events of 2010.

Peter is such an amazing provider for our family, still working hard at Reid Middleton as a Structural Engineer, as well as wearing any number of hats in working on side projects for friends and family. Perhaps the greatest of these side projects was as a webmaster and

treasurer for his mother's successful state senate campaign. Much of the time at home was taken up with any number of maintenance projects and upkeep on our cars and appliances, but the girls made sure he had plenty of play breaks and the opportunity to memorize more than a few books they requested night after night. It took surprisingly little arm twisting to derail daddy into ball throwing, horsey rides, and puppet shows (can't have him working TOO hard, after all!).



Lilah and Callie had pretty busy years as well! Now two and three years old, they spent most of their time chasing one another around, playing make-believe, 'reading' to one another, and coloring their fair share of masterpieces. Callie handles her permanent shadow fairly well, and Lilah had a blast doing whatever big sister happens to be trying, with varying amounts of success. They have been blessed with inquisitive little minds and are both a challenge and joy to us. Watching sisters play and grow has been one of the greatest blessings Peter and I have experienced... so much so, we decided to add another member to make it that much more fun!



Seth Josiah Giessel was born on October 10th, 2010 (Yes, he decided to be born almost a week late to acquire the coolest birthday of the year), weighing in at 8 lbs 4 oz and 20 inches in length. Though he was a challenge in the last few weeks of pregnancy, since being born he has been the most mellow, easy baby of the three. Seth has been a great sleeper from the beginning, and spends most of his awake time being patted and kissed by his sisters, or just checking out the world from his perch in my arms. He is two months old as I write this, and has just really begun cooing and smiling at everyone. Our son has been such an incredible blessing to us, and we are thoroughly enjoying these precious newborn days with him.



My year began with some difficulty, as I lost both of my grandmothers within three days of one another, and yet that turned out to be a sweet and blessed time spent with my family in California, as I traveled for their funerals. I also found out I was pregnant with Seth that same week, so as with all things, the Lord gave and took away, but we remained ever in His care and better for it. The rest of the year involved a fun trip to Michigan to visit with my husband's family and friends, another rousing year running the Snacks for our

church's VBS, the various ins and outs of the senate campaign (which was a full family endeavor), and the challenges of caring for our young children while pregnant.

Most of our time was spent busy with the minutia of our daily schedule, and we managed to be busy and uneventful all at once. How sweetly blessed we have been, with good health and enough provision to get by in a difficult economy! But more than that, Peter and I are so continually awed by the amazing fellowship we have with one another, as well as our dear friends and family! There have been some stressful and hard times, as life often brings, but through it all we have had the assurance of our Lord and Savior and come out the other side of this year, wiser and more humbled than ever.

We pray for you and love you all, one of our greatest joys in this Christmas season is hearing about all of YOUR adventures in return! I hope this letter finds you well, and our family thanks you for your presence in our lives.

Deeply blessed and ever grateful,

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