

Dear Friends,

January 2008

2007 opened with us spending lots of time with our new baby, Paige, and her big sister, Mariah. Visitors, football games, and table games with friends filled any empty spaces.

We joined our mostly single friends for the super bowl. The snow in February was a delight for Mariah. We took several sled rides down the hill each day. Both Grandparents celebrated Mariah's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday with us.

When Paige landed in the hospital in March with RSV, dehydration, and a touch of pneumonia we experienced God's faithfulness and strength in a whole new way; so many of our friends showed their love in various ways. Both Grandparents joined us at Womelsdorf Church for a special dedication prayer for Paige. Paige



and I participated in a women's weekend retreat while David and Mariah had some quality time together.

The outdoor sunrise service on Easter morning in April was special. It was beautiful to have a dusting of snow and flurries while

singing and thinking of that first Easter morning and Jesus bringing us life eternal. We miss our friend, Gordon Martin, who was killed in a motorcycle accident. Spending a weekend at a cabin with our small group was very nice.

The month of May brought yard sales and bargains! Mother's Day once again took us to Levitz Park for a memorable day of worship, food, and softball with Meckville Church. Our mostly single friends joined us for a cookout on Memorial Day.



June was filled with lots of activities. We hosted our

2<sup>nd</sup> neighborhood cookout. Womelsdorf Church campout was held at Boulder Ridge Retreat Center. David and I took a cycle trip to Niagara Falls for our 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Zook family spent a weekend in Potter County. We joined friends for a weekend at Pine Creek, and Mariah met a bear up close. Mariah attended a week of Bible School at Meckville Church.

Swimming and picnics filled any empty spaces in July. We spent a weekend visiting friends in western Maryland. It was nice to join family and friends in a memorial ride for Gordon. David and I both helped teach at vacation Bible School at Womelsdorf. Hosting friends from Cumberland, MD was a lot of fun as the girls got to help milk cows, swim in the creek, and even pick veggies from the garden.

The girls and I joined David as he went to Syracuse, NY for lab meetings.



Syracuse, NY for lab meetings.

August brought more swimming and picnics. We attended the funeral for my uncle who was killed in a cycle accident. David and I traveled to IN on cycle to attend a friends' wedding. The weekend at Dutchman's Paradise was spent swimming, playing volleyball, and just being with friends.

We hosted my family for a cookout on Labor Day weekend. Mariah was excited to catch some fish with the help of Kevin at a cookout with single friends. God blessed us with a beautiful day for a bike hike and picnic with Womelsdorf Church. We got in a few more hiking trips in September. God opened doors for us to be able to work with youth again by teaching the SS class. Our prayer is that God would use us to help equip the youth to serve Him. It was a blessing to be at the women's seminars again at Martindale this year. We took a day trip to a wedding in Bedford and visited David's sister as well.

In November David and I attended a marriage seminar here in Myerstown. David went to



Ending the year in Florida was a very special time. Christmas was spent with David's brother, Ray and wife Mickey in Sebastian. We were blessed with a week of 80's at the beach in Siesta Key, and inspired to share our faith in the coming years.

Paige has a sense of humor. She is crawling and likes to be with her sister. When her Daddy comes home from work she insists that he holds her.

Mariah enjoys her little sister and especially likes to hold her in her rocking chair. Singing, coloring, playing with her dolls, and helping Mommy are her specialties. Spending time with her Daddy is one of her favorite things.

Cape May for a men's retreat while the girls and I spent time with Judy Zimmerman. On Thanksgiving Day we joined the Zook family. Packing bundles for the Guatemalan orphanages was a highlight. We were reminded that instead of just counting our blessings we need to pass them along to others.

December 1<sup>st</sup> we had Christmas dinner with David's family.



Karen finds fulfillment in full-time motherhood, continues with a ladies Bible study, and meets with several young ladies. David is in the lab nearly 13 years, is in his second year of Men's Fraternity, meets with several

young men, goes to the YMCA for racquetball and wallyball, and still is a space junkie (now the rest of the family is too). We are thrilled to be working together to bring people closer to Jesus

Blessings to you,  
David, Karen,  
Mariah, & Paige  
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