

Adore God. Be filled with Him. He offers satisfying fulfillment. Our 2013 theme was 'Focus on God'. Fixing my eyes on Jesus ought to be my way of life as a believer in Christ. Reality is that I am easily distracted and sins trip me up. I am tempted to live in regret (hindsight), to worry (blurred vision), or to have an extremely narrow point of view (tunnel vision). I need to open my eyes to see God working around us. Our desire is to run with endurance the race God has set before us. We must focus on Jesus, the source and goal of our faith (Hebrews 12:1-2). God, 'Divert my eyes from toys and trinkets, invigorate me on the pilgrim way' so we can run for Your glory (Psalm 119:37)!



biking 32 miles from Meyersdale, PA to Cumberland, MD, then celebrating with Crystal & Scott as they were married. A rafting trip to the Yough with On Fire Youth Ministry was

During the cooler months we were able to spend some time with family and friends – lunch dates, hosting, (even hosting our Maid of Honor all the way from Nevada) and visiting during the Super Bowl. We had a great time skiing at Camelback. It was a privilege to hear 'Mrs. Noah' speak about what it may have been like to be on Noah's ark and all the challenges that came with that. We toured Philadelphia one day via subway – scouting

filled with almost too much adventure! A field trip scouting visit to Goddard Space Flight Center was interesting.



We set up our redneck waterslide a few times this summer, and did some swimming as well. Labor Day renewed friendships at Dutchman's Paradise in Lycoming County, with refreshing jumps into the water hole in the creek.

out some field trip ideas – and completed the day by having dinner with a few Bawell cousins. A big feat was for me was to drive a 56 passenger bus on a field trip to Camden NJ.



Fall took us to fun in a corn maze as a family – we girls did well in navigating. Seeing God's handiwork is always neat as we bike and hike. David and I were thankful to take in a marriage seminar hosted by Greg & Erin Smalley. We were reminded that we need to dream together. We helped promote and host a Lead Like Jesus Seminar.

The girls tried out their skills in ice skating a few times this spring. David, along with a few other men, attended a seminar at Pure Life Ministries, KY; the girls and I spent the weekend at my parents. David planned and bused the high school group on a trip to Camden/Philadelphia – visiting a battleship, riding subway, eating at market, Independence Hall, and an old prison. We also did some hiking and biking.

A late fall 2 week trip to Ghana, Africa was a dream come true for our family. Our friends, Jon and Sara Sauder, did a kind, memorable job hosting us. David taught at a Sunday village fellowship. Sauder's took us to visit the baboons, deer, and warthogs of Mole National Park, a



Warm weather brought many activities. The girls attended 2 Bible schools. At Pine Creek we biked 17 miles through the canyon and also rafted 8 miles of the creek this year. At the end of June, it was a pleasure to host Ray & Mickey – David's brother and wife– joining them as tourists: buggy ride, Kitchen Kettle, Noah at Sight & Sound, and taking David's parents along to visit his sister Rose and family in Blair county. Mariah attended Kenbrook Bible Camp with her friend Kyla. July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend was spent in Maryland, joining our hosts Alvin & Lil & friends

slave castle, a market, a canopy walkway, a beach, and dear friends near Cape Coast. The girls helped hand out balloons at a school for children rescued



from bad situations. Thanks also to Levi & Mindy Chupp for hosting us for 2 nights! God granted us a splendid trip!

Christmas was in Florida with Ray & Mickey: God blessed us with some beautiful weather – jumping the waves in the Atlantic was thrilling! The diverse



animals of Lion Country Safari showed God's creativity. Heading north, we made memories as we hiked and ate by waterfalls while staying with Phil & Lisa Hollinger in SC. Then

we scurried to TN to visit my Aunt Jean, joined by cousin Ron and his family for an evening of games! We twisted our way to Dugspur,



Virginia bringing in the new year with my cousin, Rose & Merv Stoltzfus and family, after hiking Mt Buffalo at 4000 feet above sea level. Seeing the sunset from the top of the mountain was spectacular!



Mariah joined the 17 member Children's Chorus of the Lebanon County Choral Society and really enjoys singing. She is in 4<sup>th</sup> grade, is starting her 4<sup>th</sup> year of piano, and is very

bestowed of God in mind and body, having been named Miss Joyful at school.

Paige is in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. She just started piano lessons and is super excited! She enjoys pouring over

photo albums and jigsaw puzzles, is blessed by the Lord with wit and focus, having been named Miss Studious at school. Mariah & Paige are best of friends!

I am kept busy being a homemaker. Involvement with Victorious Women ladies Bible study is a blessing! God has blessed me with many Christian friends to encourage me on life's journey. Driving bus and being a 'listener' (small group leader) at Released Time is a wonderful opportunity; RT is a Bible program in our local school district where children can take an hour off school and participate in worship, a Bible lesson, and memory verses, as well as interaction with a Christian adult.

David is ready for his 20<sup>th</sup> year at Pure Test Water Lab, where they added another technician last fall. David still plays racquetball, meets one-on-one with men frequently, and seeks to inspire men to find fulfillment in Christ. At RT, David helps teach 4<sup>th</sup> grade, drives bus, and is the 'male' presence. We are thankful to serve together in this ministry. Sunday mornings we continue to fellowship at On Fire Youth Ministries, with David teaching occasionally, and all of us working to encourage community teens and other seekers. This is a special opening for our family.

We ask—ask the God of our Master, Jesus Christ, the God of glory—to make you intelligent and discerning in knowing Him personally, your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what it is He is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life He has for His followers, oh, the utter extravagance of His work in us who trust Him—endless energy, boundless strength! (derived from Ephesians 1:18)

David, Karen, Mariah, and Paige Brubaker

