



# Merry Christmas

Belated Edition



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*Come, thou long  
expected Jesus,  
born to set thy  
people free,  
from our fears and  
sins release us,  
let us find our rest  
in thee.  
Israel's strength  
and consolation,  
hope of all the  
earth thou art,  
dear desire of  
every nation,  
joy of every  
longing heart.*

*Charles Wesley  
1745*

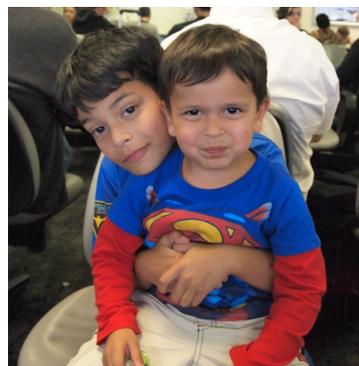
Merry Christmas friends and family! I just love the anticipation and joy that fills this time of year in the David home. Zachary had been greeting us each morning when we wakes up with "Merry Christmas mommy and daddy!" What a great way to start the day!

We have had a year of amazing experiences as a family. Every day is an adventure with our three goofballs but some highlights of 2010 include Andrew and I leaving the kiddos with my parents and taking off for Paris. I actually joined him after a business trip and it was amazing. Paris would not have been my first choice European destination but having experienced it I wouldn't trade it for anything. We really had a wonderful relaxing time. I even enjoyed every minute of my 8 hour flight. Time to yourself as a mother of 3 little boys is a precious commodity!!! We also took an amazing trip as a family and managed to fit welcoming two new babies to our extended family, a trip to Legoland, the Grand Canyon, and the beautiful New Mexican desert into one trip. It was so much fun and with lots of drive time, Andrew and I actually had time to talk. We have decided drive time needs to be a part of all future family vaca-



tions. In other big news we remodeled our kitchen which was a home project we meant to have done years ago. It is beautiful and bigger. I no longer have homicidal thoughts when Andrew wants to help by doing dishes while I cook. I am also loving how it has opened up our home and just made it feel like a much better fit for our family.

Our little men continue to grow up alarmingly fast. Matthew is 8 years old this year and will pass me up in shoe and hand size any day



now. He loves reading a good book (must be a wild adventure), playing video games and tennis. I knew we had found his "thing" with tennis when he began asking for a lesson each day as he jumped in the car after school. He also gets great joy out of asking his tennis teacher questions that force him to resort to using the Wikipedia app on his phone. He continues to be my driven, black and white young man. The upside is that if we can get this one pointed in the right direction he will not be moved. I sometimes find myself encouraging him to be a bit more responsive to peer pressure. I will need to adjust before our next reaches this stage. They may look the same but that is where it ends.

Isaiah just had his 5th birthday and is a sweet, tender-hearted little guy. He decided to share every piece of his

Christmas candy from school evenly with our entire family a couple days ago. Andrew even came home from our night out to find a sucked on cherry lifesaver waiting for him all wrapped up in a napkin. Zay had realized daddy had been shorted and had to make things right. Poor Andrew was forced to rinse the napkin bits off and eat it or break Isaiah's heart the next morning. What a good daddy! Zay loves preschool, super heroes and playing with his friends. He is still the source of a lot of great laughs for his father and I. My favorite of the year was when Zach was screaming in his bed for water after being tucked in. I heard Zay from the top bunk saying, "I have water in my bed and I'd like to do compassion to you, but I have to obey my mommy and I can't get out of bed." That my little people pleaser is a serious dilemma.

Zachary just turned 3 and we let him



start preschool this year as he just couldn't wait one more year to be like his big brothers. Zach is sure that he can do anything his big brothers can and really does amaze me with what his resolve can accomplish. He also LOVES super heroes and has to be reminded frequently that he does NOT have super powers. He has expressed confidence in his ability to zip line into the Grand Canyon, jump from the 2nd floor of the mall down to the 1st and capture bad guys and has actually attempted to jump off of pretty much every surface in the house. He still calls his forehead his

"poorhead" since that is what he hears us call it most of the time. I'm glad he was not my first or I may have had a breakdown.

Andrew has had a great year and despite many changes at work God has taken good care of him and he feels very good about where he has landed. In addition to Australia and Paris for work he took a trip to Ethiopia exploring missions opportunities for our church which was a highlight of the year for him. We feel so blessed that his company gave him 2 weeks of paid time off at the holidays this year in addition to his regular time off. This has more than made up for the vacation time spent on his missions trip and has been wonderful for our family. Oh, and I almost forgot. He is now a U.S. citizen! Yippy! Now if he commits a felony (one of my deepest fears ;-)) I won't have to worry about him getting booted back to India!

I have had a fantastic year as well. I continue to enjoy my part-time pediatric nursing work and have loved the freedom of having all 3 boys in school for a few hours each week. In other big news for me and the rest of the family we are expecting our 4th little one in late July 2011! We are all excited and Andrew and I are preparing ourselves for handling our co-workers' shock. Four kids is considered a little crazy here in the Seattle area. I think I'll just have a scrubs top printed up to say something like "We are having our 4th child on purpose. We are neither trying for a girl nor religiously obligated." That should save me some repetitive conversations. The boys are all very excited. Zachary thinks of something new every day that he will be able to help baby with. So far the list includes: walking, putting the pacifier in his/her mouth, diaper changes, moving, talking... You get the idea. Isaiah wants to buckle the new baby into the car seat before



each outing and Matt looks forward to being the only big brother old enough to actually pick up the baby. I know what you're thinking. This baby will be lucky to make it to their first birthday. Thank you God for guardian angels!

As I prepare to sign off it is now mid-January and not mid-December. I will put the blame where it belong, on the morning sickness (Yuck!). Have a wonderful 2011 friends and family and thank you so much for all the beautiful cards, pictures and letters we've received this Christmas.

Lot of Love,

Andrew, Amber, Matt, Zay and Zachie David

