



The Williamson Wonderings

Christmas 2011



Dave here. Another year has flown by, and apparently we've been busy. When I went to find the Spring Issue of *The Williamson Wonderings* to see what I wrote you, I found that I didn't write you! Many of you have not heard from us since last Christmas. Shame on me!

Well, let's try to get caught up. In November of 2010, Caleb and I began the "*Commerce Avenue School*", and took our first field trip - to Boston and Chicago for a combined Hard Hats/homeschool trip. We visited missionaries in Maine, volunteers and supporters in Illinois, toured historic Boston (including the Paul Revere house) on a gorgeous, sunny, warm Saturday, went to the Boston Aquarium and the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry. Caleb still asks when are we going back?

The Hard Hats office was burglarized while we were away, but little of real value was taken and the thief was eventually apprehended. He is now doing time for nearly 50 burglaries in Longview! We believe he may have been scared away by the Big Angels that guard our place, because he left many valuables behind, such as laptop computers that were in plain sight!

I took a couple of days for a personal retreat at Long Beach, WA, last January. It was a refreshing time with the Lord, and I am grateful to Him and to those who prayed for me then. We lost a friend in Idaho to cancer about then, and were able to go over for the memorial service. It was great to see the church building we helped build full of worshippers!

2011 was a year of networking for Hard Hats for Christ. We were featured in an on-line Christian Construction Workers newsletter in January. Pray for a wider circulation of this resource - not because they featured us, but because we need to unite the Christians in construction in our country! It was gratifying to be able to give nearly the entire nation the day off to celebrate my birthday in February, which fell on *President's (and CEO's?) Day* this year.

Winter and Spring were occupied mainly with home-schooling Caleb, organizing our Neighborhood Watch Group (we had a string of burglaries in and around our block - PTL for the Big Angels that guard our place! Summer started off with a visit by Ann's sister, Sandra, and her husband, Ben.

Progress on the remodeling we started five years ago has been in fits and starts (the house looks pretty good in the dark!) . We've had some good help along the way from Hard Hats missionaries in between projects who needed to earn a little spending money. I somehow managed to injure my back two days before my brother arrived from Arkansas in May to help remodel the kitchen - yes, we remodeled the kitchen downstairs even though the upstairs wasn't finished yet. I was basically immobile for four days, but got up and was able to participate in the project. NO trouble since. PTL! (I promised Ann it wouldn't take five years - got it done in only five months, about...!)

