

THE MORELAND TIMES 2008

Online and off killer

If you missed the story of why we now live in Idaho, go to read the old news at www.MontyMoreland.com. There is also a link to Mari Beth's blog with a bunch of news and pictures of most of what you read here and more! Catch us on Facebook too.



And Here We Have Idaho – the reunion

In July The John and Fern Moreland family (Monty's parents and siblings and their families except nephew Cooper) came to Idaho for a family reunion. That is quite an undertaking as we live in VA, TN, NM and CA. We were also blessed to have Uncle Ralph, Aunt Lynelle and Cousin Christy make the long drive from NM. Dad and Mom rented a house near Cascade Lake, ID. We enjoyed fishing, swimming, rafting, playing, and the annual singing of all The Beatles songs, except we only did the first part of Hey Jude.



Trailer Life!

After many years of talking about getting a travel trailer we went ahead and did it! We bought a used Dutchman that sleeps 10



skinny people (4 bunk beds in the back) and took our first trip in April. We actually had to use our heater at night, but it was pretty nice during the day. Other trips included

Hagerman, ID, Lowman, ID, and our favorite so far was in the Sawtooth Mountains by Red Fish Lake. It was absolutely beautiful and we definitely are heading back next Summer! And, if the economy continues as it has been, we have a fall-back plan for housing.

Holiday Happenings

We were thrilled that Melinda, Macy, Melanie and Dewey, and Monica were able to come and spend about a week with us at Thanksgiving. Monty took the kids to spend one night in Cascade, Idaho at a house that his parents and sister rented. Mari Beth, her sisters and Macy had a girl's night that involved eating at the



Cheesecake Factory and shopping! The girls drove to Cascade and picked up Monty and the kids and we spent the day ice skating and walking around McCall, Idaho. Christmas will be quiet this year



with just our family and Monty's parents here in Idaho-ho-ho.

Mari Beth Turned 40!

By Mari Beth



I had the biggest surprise of my life when I opened the front door and there stood my sister, Melinda! A few minutes later out stepped one of my best friends, Angela May! I seriously thought I was going to have a heart attack. The next day the door bell rang and I answered and it was

another one of my best friends, Diane Roark! I truly was in shock again. We had a blast watching movies, eating, and of course shopping. Monty took us around site seeing and they joked saying he had 4 wives which is pretty funny since we live in Mormon country! All of the girls made huge sacrifices in leaving their families to come and make my birthday so special. I will never ever forget it!



The Center

This Fall happenings around The Center (Biblical Studies Center www.boisebsc.org) have really grown. Working with students who are drawn to God through that ministry is a large part of why God guided us here to Boise. Many exciting opportunities to grow relationships and assist people on their journey to God have been inspiring. We cherish the way we can work with Monty's parents in ministry and live a life of Christian unity with so many from diverse backgrounds. The changes that have taken place are nothing short of miraculous. We are excited to be a small part of God's plan and are grateful for the purpose he has been preparing us for and now is calling us to live day to day.

Kendall By Kendall

I have finished my second year of Greek. In second year Greek I translated and copied Matthew 5, 6, 7 and John 9. I have also copied Philemon, 2nd and 3rd John, John 11, John 12, and Jude. Jude is VERY hard to translate and smooth out. Here is Jude verse 1 before I have smoothed it out: Jude Jesus Christ servant, brother but James the brother of Jesus the by God father while by loving and Jesus Christ by guarding by invited. Now try figuring out what that says without looking at a bible.



This semester I took a class on preaching from Kevin Skidmore. He is the pastor at Eldorado COC. I have had to preach 4 sermons. 3 of them were just to the class but 1 of them was to about 50-60 people. Before I took this class I couldn't even speak to 2 people but now I could probably speak to 200 people. I have learned a lot on how to speak effectively from this class.

A New Child!

This Fall Kendall was baptized to give his life to Jesus. That day many of his friends met in Ann Morrison Park and he took the plunge in the Boise River.

Abby By Abby

Wow! So many things have happened to me this past year. To start, mom and I have been going to a Bible study/club for girls. It is called "Reel Live G.I.R.L.S. Club (Growing in Righteous Living Sisterhood)". We have a Bible study using the book A Young Woman after God's Own Heart by Elizabeth George. Also, my best friend, Alexa, from Alabama, and I have been writing a book but haven't gotten far enough in to it to give it a title. It's about a girl who is going through normal stuff, but then something goes wrong and her life changes forever! You'll have to wait till it's finished to find out what happens. We plan to write three books that run together.



Picture by Mattie Grace



Our family with Santa and Dasher

Picture by Amelia



Mom with pants and hair

Mattie Grace By Mattie G.

I am 6 years old. I learned how to read, ride my bike with no training wheels, lost my two bottom teeth and am learning to crochet. I crocheted my first Christmas ornament made from a Christmas card.



Amelia

It is hard to believe but Amelia turned three this year. She loves watching all the Princess Diary movies, spending the night with Gma and Gpa and playing with her dolls.

An Army of Two Nephews II – Redeployed.

Mari Beth's nephew, Morgan, is now serving in Iraq and I ask you to please remember him in your prayers. We are excited to announce that he and Ashley were married this year and are happy to have her as part of our family! Jordan is still in the Army

but will not be joining his troop in Iraq because of an injury in his hand. We are so proud of them both!

Monty By Monty

My year was filled with many "Bucket List" activities. I started the year out teaching my kids to ski on the same mountain where I first skied. All of us, but mainly Kendall and I, enjoyed one of the best, longest ski seasons they have ever had here.



Another highlight was our family trip to Mt. Saint Helens. A big one was all our camping and fishing excursions... especially the one in the Sawtooth Mountains (See our family photo. Yes, the background is real). The major highlight was getting to participate



in my son's decision to dedicate his life to God (see the video of his baptism on my/his Facebook page). My job is ideal in challenge, coworkers, stability, location... God knew what He was doing and I am

happy that he gave me the patience to wait on Him as He put everything in place. I have been working with my Dad in ministry on a daily basis and see my Mom regularly. My family enjoys our new city. My life is filled with the blessings of God.

Trouble Sometimes

We are living in troubled times and it is easy to lose hope. We pray that this verse in Isaiah will give you strength and hope as we anxiously await Jesus Christ's return!

**The LORD gives perfect peace
to those whose faith is firm.
So always trust the LORD
because he is forever
our mighty rock.
Isaiah 26:3-4**

We hope you are able to look back on the year and see true blessings that God is bringing in your lives. We feel incredibly blessed to have a vision for God's purpose for us and the knowledge that we have been able to listen to God, hear his desires, and obey his direction in many areas. We are eager to continue the journey with God as 2009 begins. Please keep in touch. We enjoy hearing from you.

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