

Merry Christmas to you - our family and friends! As 2006 comes to an end, we are happy to report that we have ALL survived another year!

(There *were* times when we weren't sure a child would live to see the next day!) As our family grows and becomes more involved, we have found it necessary to take life one day at a time. Here are the highlights of our year - one month at a time!



January

after 5 years of cool green, Amber repaints the kitchen/dining/family room rust -- her last wild act in her 20's
John inhales paint fumes while he works from bed, as his back allows little standing or sitting

February

before the paint fumes have faded, we buy a house the next block over
we sell our house in 4 days without advertising
Amber eagerly enters a new decade
Alayna starts nursery (does time speed up with your younger children?!)

March

John begins a lengthy recovery from back surgery
Aliece VERY excitedly turns 4 and invites all her friends to a Palace Party
Aliece receives her first bouquet of flowers from an adorable little knight
Aylee is the only girl on her basketball team



April

Aliece is the only girl on her & Johnny's soccer team
Amber & Adee backpack through Capitol Reef National Forest



May

we move into our "4 bedroom plus an office" home
Aylee's school choir sings at Abravental Hall in Salt Lake City, accompanied by her mom

June

John attends youth conference & scout camp & he and Johnny do a father/son camp-out
our 2 story home is struck by lightening, blowing out the air conditioning, the garage door opener, the DVD player, and part of the sprinkler system (since Amber was out of town, she is wondering what great sin John may have committed to deserve such!) of



July

Johnny makes a splash into his 6th year
we get some r&r with the Reeds at Ennis Lake, MT
Amber leads 35 young women in a 5-day young women's camp
Aylee finishes reading the entire Book of Mormon on her own

August

Aylee anxiously turns 8
Aylee is baptized and confirmed by her dad
Alayna enters the 2's with a BANG! (here we go again!)
John is released when our bishopric is reorganized



September

John & Amber visit Reed & Michelle in Chicago and stop in Nauvoo for a couple days
John begins attending Masters of Business Administration classes every Friday night & Saturday morning
John turns 32, happy to have 31 in the rear-view mirror
John is asked to serve on the High Council and is responsible for missionary work

October

Johnny is the first student in his class to earn the "Kindest Kid" award
Alayna uses the toilet at every stop on our way home from Spokane, then refuses to use the toilets in our house - fickle women!
the kids go trick-or-treating as a full court: Aylee is, of course, king, Johnny's a knight, Aliece & Alayna are princesses

November

attend Adee & Adam's wedding in Logan
spend Thanksgiving weekend with the Andersens at a condo in Park City
Aylee & Johnny each receive a trophy for the documentaries they create for the "Reflections" program
John has his first root canal

December

Johnny (finally) loses his first tooth
Aylee & Amber both sing in choir performances
Johnny & Aylee have piano performances
John is assigned to work with a Spanish Branch, once more leaving Amber alone with the kids at church
Aliece tries skiing for the first time



We are grateful to be leaving a year full of improved health, joyful memories with our family and numerous personal accomplishments. We are thankful for you - our family and friends - who make life meaningful. We are indebted to our Heavenly Father and His Son Jesus Christ who have given us everything. May we all recognize our bounteous gifts.

All our love ~ John, Amber, Aylee, Johnny, Aliece & Alayna Andersen