



Dear family and friends,

We hope this newsletter finds each of you well and living for Him. 2010 has been a phenomenal year here at the Mahserjian-Smith household.

Mark remains a staff member for the American Baptist Churches of Pennsylvania and Delaware. The organization redesigned its ministry and reduced the number of fulltime employees. Mark will now watch over missions and communications, traveling around the Region helping churches grow their ministries.

Susan continues to work part-time at St. Mark's and the Lutheran Synod as a bookkeeper. She has been busy visiting Zach and catering Amanda & Andrew's reception this summer.

Kerri is living in Phoenixville and working at the Columbia Restaurant. Heather (20) is here in Williamsport and is attending college to be a nurse. Heather's son Trey will be 2 in January. We alternate between calling him 'gorgeous Borgess' and 'Trey Bien.' He is a healthy active loveable little boy.

Laurie and Jared are living in Williamsport. Laurie is manager for a local Subway and Jared works at a local Wal-Mart as a manager. Gabrielle is almost 17 and in 11th grade. She is thinking about a career in medicine. Tristan is almost 12 and in 6th grade. He is very athletic and is planning to play on the football team in the Middle School next year.

Jessica is almost 25 and lives in Colledgeville. She is getting her Paralegal degree at Villanova University and works full time for the Public Defender's Office in Philadelphia. She and Sean have been together for a few years and are doing well.

Amanda is almost 22 and married Andrew Howard in August at Hepburn Baptist Church. It was a lovely service and reception. They are expecting their first child in June/July of 2011.

Zachary is 21 and spent most of the year either in the hospital or the nursing home. From January through April he held his own but was still being fed by J-tube into his intestine as his stomach still would not digest his G-tube feed or oral food. In May the doctor discovered he had a portion of his small intestine being squeezed between the Superior Mesenteric Artery and the aorta that feeds the gut so on May 22nd he had a gastric by-pass. He was hospitalized for 6 weeks and discharged to the nursing home. After several weeks in Rose View we realized he was once again losing weight and he was re-admitted to the hospital at 68 lbs., where he continued to deteriorate in spite of everything they tried. We were told the first Friday in August that he was only expected to live another 12-36 hours. We called family and friends and everyone gathered in his room where we prayed and sang his favorite songs with him (*Trust & Obey, His Name is Wonderful, My God is So Great*). Since he was dying we asked the doctor if we could feed him oral food and he agreed and wrote a prescription for 'comfort food.' (Prior to this it had been a year since he had anything to eat orally) Well, Zach 'comforted' himself Saturday, Sunday and Monday with all his favorite foods and somewhere in between his stomach started working stunning all the doctors! On November 22nd he returned to his group home and ate Thanksgiving dinner with mom & dad! He is on his way to 100 lbs!! He is a living, breathing miracle from our loving God!

Luke is 21 and continues to work at the Williamsport Hospital. His dog Dingo weighs about 95 lbs, only slightly less than Luke! Luke is still his quiet, shy self but we really enjoy having him with us.

Mariah is 16 and in 10th grade and there is nothing quiet or shy about her! She is continuing her ballet, tap, lyrical and hip-hop dance lessons. She had her Sweet-Sixteen party with about 150-160 of her 'closest' friends—did we mention she's the social butterfly of the family?

We still have our Westie Terrier, Baxter, but he's showing his age and we're not sure how much longer he'll be with us. We haven't figured out if Dingo is keeping him young or aging him...

That's about it at the Mahserjian-Smith household. We pray that you and yours are healthy. Please drop us a line when you have a moment. May you have a blessed Christmas and a wonderful New Year living for our Savior!

God's love and ours,

Mark & Susan

