

# Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Another year is coming to a close and you never know where God is going to lead you. If you would have asked me back in January what I thought this year would look like, I don't think I would have said we'd be living in IL with our daughter Allison. God is good and He directs our paths in ways we don't always see coming. 2007 was a wonderful year bringing many surprises, tears and memories! As you will see, we found out we were going to have a baby in March. Aaron took a new job and we moved at the end of July to Sterling, IL. We have a new niece and love being near family now that we have moved. It was hard to leave CT since our home and friends were there for the last three years, but we have wonderful memories. We hope you enjoy seeing some pictures from 2007.



Aaron & I took a trip to Newport, RI. We took a tour of The Breakers Mansion (pictured above). It was very pretty & amazing. Aaron is on the shoreline behind the mansion area.



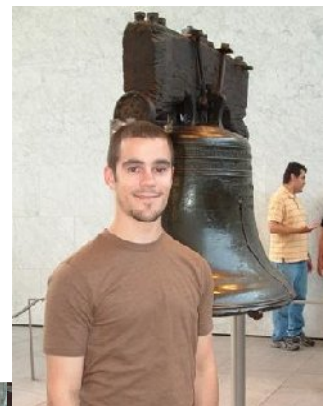
At the end of March we found out that we were going to have our first baby. It was a nice surprise! This is our first ultrasound. Our baby is the size of a bean.



In February we went to Colorado to visit Aaron's parents & younger brother. While we were there we spent the weekend in Silverthorne, CO. We had a really nice time. (Above) I decided to go sledding. (Below) Aaron & I are at Glen Eyrie, one of my favorite places in Colorado Springs.



Aaron went to a conference near Philadelphia, PA so we went early & spent the weekend in Philly. (Right) Aaron with the Liberty Bell, Lower (Right) Love fountain, and (Below) Me on a Sorry piece, part of an art exhibit down town.



On our trip to Philly we also stopped at Valley Forge. I'm George Washington. Below are replicas of some of the cabins the soldiers stayed in.



My friends had a baby shower for baby Barker before we moved. Above – front to back : Amanda, me, Amy, Laurie, Heidi, & Mayla. Right – Natalie, Abbey and me.



The last weekend in July we moved from Plainville, CT to Sterling, IL. Here we are right before we left from our church parking lot. God really watched over us on our long trip (about 24 hrs) with only a few hours of sleep. Aaron drove the rental truck with our S10 pickup being towed behind. Max did great during the move, too!



Laurie, Amy, Amanda, Me & Aaron making milkshakes at the antique tractor show in Montpelier, OH. Our friends wanted to experience a little "country". They got to hold baby pigs at my parents house and it was pretty funny! While Aaron was moving us in, the girls & I went to Chicago.



Chicago from the Sears Tower ←

Me by Buckingham Fountain →





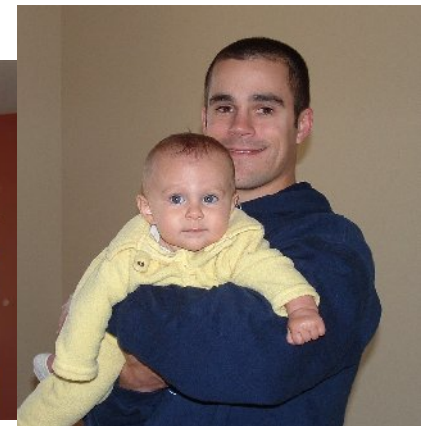
Above – in the Sears Tower in Chicago  
Below – at Indiana Dunes State Park.



**Aaron is standing by the right field foul line from the previous Busch Stadium.**

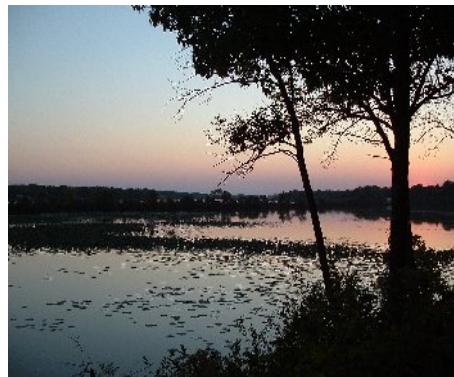


Baby Barker's 1<sup>st</sup> Cardinals Game at Busch Stadium in St. Louis.



Our niece, Abree Jealynn, was born on April 30, 2007. We've enjoyed being around her and other family since we have moved to IL.

Aaron & I went to Savannah, IL. It's very pretty there. This is a picture of the Mississippi River.



Rock River at Sinnissippi Park about ¼ mile from our apartment. A nice place to take walks.



Pictures with the youth group. It was hard to leave them, but we left them in God's hands. We will always cherish the memories.



Allison Noelle Barker ~ December 9, 2007 ~ 8lbs 4oz, 22 inches



Welcome to the world!



Daddy is cutting the cord.



Mommy & Allison



Daddy & Allison



I'm clean!



Nap time again!



Allison & her cousin Abree



I got my thumb!



Merry Christmas from Aaron, Joy, Allison and Max

