

The Tozour Times

News from 2011

Departure from the Norm

This certainly has been a year of aberrations for us. Over the past seventeen and a half years in evangelism, we have always been together as a family. But then our truck died last March (The F-350 blew a cylinder pulling our big old trailer!). With nothing to drive and insufficient funds to replace the truck, I set out in borrowed vehicles or by plane to join the Wessbergs in meetings. Angela and the three girls stayed with the trailer wherever we happened to leave it for a few weeks (Michael was kind enough to tote our fifth-wheel to some central locations throughout the year, so that we could be together as a family as often as possible.). We began to pray in earnest for the means to purchase a new truck. Money has trickled in throughout the year, but we're not there yet.



Meanwhile, in another departure from the typical, we did not get to Hawaii for meetings this year (a variation from our routine for the past ten straight years). Makes you weep for us, huh? Instead, the Wessbergs were able to schedule some camps and vacation Bible schools, and we Tozours went to **Alaska** for the entire month of July! Briana and Heather were especially excited, because they got to take along a dear friend of theirs from our church. Johanna Andrews had not seen mountains or the ocean before, having grown up in the flatlands of the Midwest. She got to see both on our very first weekend in the forty-ninth state! During our weeks of ministry in three churches and two teen camps, we saw twenty moose, several bears, numerous caribou and bald eagles, plus some Dahl sheep, and a seal. Our girls served on the operational staff at camp and helped out in church meetings with special music and children's classes. It was a wonderful time for building fabulous memories together!

What follows below is some perspective from Angela and our older two daughters on the year that was. Despite the Tozours not having a tow vehicle, the team carried on meetings in twenty-two states, thirty-nine churches, seven camps, four conferences, and a Bible college. The busy schedule allowed the year to go by quickly, and the Lord sure did teach us some things through it all, as you'll read below.

Angela: Holding Down the Home Front

Although this has been a different year for our family (apart for nine months), the Lord has been faithful! If you would have told me that we girls would be living in the RV all by ourselves for months while Rich went to meetings, I would have never signed up for the class! (Rich often says that trials in life are not electives; they are part of the core curriculum.). But the Lord knew what was needed to teach and reinforce some valuable lessons in my life. I am so grateful for my Heavenly Father who is ever-present and knows the end from the beginning!

“Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart (Psalm 27:14).” Waiting means that I have to sit still (Psalm 46:10), and I'm not very good at that! His ways are always for my good and His glory. I've told the girls many times these past few months that the Lord has put us in this classroom, so we need to learn everything we can from it. And, the goal for us, of course, is to get an A in the class!! ☺

What a blessing it has been, though, to be with our sweet church family. We are so grateful that the Lord “parked” us here. Briana (15 years old) has been involved in the youth group, soul winning, and bus ministry. Heather (12) has enjoyed spending time with friends, and, for the first time, was home for her birthday! She and I also had the privilege of conducting children's meetings, along with my mom (Grandma Wessberg), at our home church during revival services. It brought back fun memories of helping Mom, while I was traveling in evangelism with them years ago! As for our baby, we are wondering how Lanae (14 months) will do when she has to go to a different nursery each week. (She's been in the same church now for months!)☺ This



little one has brought much joy into our household. We can't walk by her without hugging and kissing on her! We've figured out that she has been slow in learning to walk because she is held so much! It sure is a joy to serve our Lord as a family!

Heather: Happenings at Home

I've really enjoyed being home with all my friends, and I've learned so much about waiting on the Lord's timing. Being away from my dad every week or two was pretty tough. We were always excited to see him! It was also so much fun being here for my 12th birthday, my first time to be at home for one of my birthdays! Now that we have been home for so long, it will be pretty tough to leave. But I am looking forward to being back on the road again! I am so thankful for all of you who have been praying for us. The Lord was kind to put us at our home church, so we could be with all of our friends! The Lord has taught me so much, and I am so thankful!

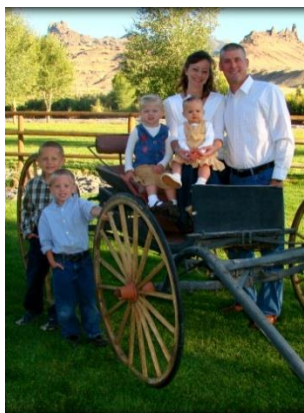


Briana: Alaska, Ministry, and Friends

Wow, what a crazy year it's been! This summer was busy, yet a good one. It started off, like usual, with camps and meetings and then ended up in Alaska. Although I had been to Alaska before, this year it was extra special because my friend Johanna got to join us for a month! The beauty of God's creation is astounding! One day we were gazing at mountains, snow, and the ocean, and the next at eagles, moose, bear, whales, and seals. Even though sightseeing was very exciting, I think that my favorite part of the trip was working at a little camp out in the wilderness. Not only did we work a lot around camp, but we also made many good friends.

Well, after the summer was over school began; and I thought that we would have a truck by then. But it just wasn't in God's plan. So, ever since August, my mom, sisters, and I have been in Kansas City. The longest I had ever been home in Missouri was last year when Lanae was born, but now I had the chance to really get involved in my home church. Taking part in the bus ministry was something that I had never done before, but I enjoyed every minute of it! The kids were all so eager to hear the lesson and come to church. It really challenged me to think about why I go. Another ministry I'm definitely going to miss is being involved in our youth group. Of course I'm going to miss friends, but also the interaction with all the teens. Although I'm not sure why God has kept us here for so long, I do know one thing: God is always in control, and every situation has a purpose.

Michael and Candace: A Word from the Wessbergs



Once again, in the past year, we have experienced God's great faithfulness and goodness in our lives. As 1 Samuel 12:24 reminds us, The Lord has done great things! The most exciting event this year was when our son Zachariah accepted Christ as Savior! We had the privilege of leading Him to the Lord one night in April after a revival service. Many other children were also saved during this past year. Every week was a new opportunity to share the Gospel with children and help them to grow in Christ.

This year completed seven years of full time evangelism with the Tozours. Along with the full schedule of revival meetings, Michael also preached a couple weeks of junior camps and a vacation Bible school in the summer. We give glory to God for the salvation of many souls!

Life inside our home is never dull! Noises and toys from four very active children fill the trailer. Our oldest son Zachariah is six and in kindergarten. Andrew is four years old and enjoys preschool every day with Mommy and Chloe. The boys love to play golf and tennis with Daddy! Our three year old, Chloe, is a sweet little mommy to her babies, but also loves to wrestle with the boys. Evy, last year's special Christmas blessing, will soon turn one!

We praise God for His sufficiency, grace, and abundant blessings! It is a great joy for our family to serve Him!

A Final Word

We really look forward to being all together as a team in 2012, if the Lord wills. Thanks so much for lifting us up in prayer and for remembering us throughout the year (1Timothy 2:1-4). May our dear Heavenly Father grant you a wonderful 2012.