

December 1991

What a year of changes in our world. Freed hostages, dissolved countries, possible compromise in the Middle East, unity in Europe – the list goes on. In the face of these incredible events, we wonder what can come next. Perhaps now countries will turn their energies and resources from guns to butter as people learn to let love rule. What a wonderful prayer for this Christmas season.

Despite the rapid pace of change in the world, life for the Moores has been relatively constant this year. We are now in the middle of our third year in Pocatello and are comfortably settled into our community, with all the security and peace that a routine can provide. We divide our time between family, school, work, and learning to be homeowners. From lawn care to leaf-raking to snow-shoveling to plumbing, it seems to never end, although we did manage to spend a week in Boston this past summer (minus the kids). It was a great vacation. Tammy also raised vegetables this year and we built the kids a backyard treehouse. Tammy's parents visited in August to help us finish remodeling part of the basement (they helped with the trim work – something Kevin couldn't do to save his life). Next year the efforts move upstairs, with plans to add a deck out of the dining room. This past year we began worshiping at the Pocatello United Methodist Church. We are very happy there and particularly appreciate their priorities on social justice, tolerance, and respect. Kevin also enjoys playing his guitar each Sunday in the contemporary worship service. He's turning into a regular musician, and even has callouses on his fingers.

We have almost left the “parents of preschoolers” stage of our life behind (and probably a good thing – a while back we kept a three-week old and his two-year old brother; we weren't sure we would survive!). Sometimes our kids seem nearly grown. The old adage, “time goes by faster as you get older,” seems to have more truth in it as our kids grow up. Joshua is now in first grade, where his favorite subjects are science and reading. He is currently sporting a sports watch (no pun intended) that he won in a spelling contest. This fall he had a great time playing in the city soccer league. At home Joshua enjoys riding his bike and collecting things from nature, especially rocks. Julia is also growing up fast. She is developing into quite a little lady. She got her own jewelry box for her fifth birthday (Nov 22) and seemed to grow two feet taller as a result. Julia is definitely the free spirit of our family. She remains reckless, daring, and full of abandon and she often lives life from minute to minute. She also is very social and always seems to be the center of attention. Her favorite activities are jigsaw puzzles and board games. She can put together 100 piece puzzles by herself – better than Dad can do! To round out our family, we now have a mutt (editorial description) named Joey and a tabby cat named Millie. Joey is Mom's dog (Dad will tolerate him, but prefers the cat). The kids love them both.

Tammy has been busy this year as a full-time student. She will graduate a year from May with a history degree. She is most interested in American diplomatic history and foreign policy, but also enjoyed a two-semester course on Russian history. Kevin has settled into his job as an engineering professor at Idaho State. This past summer he performed research for the Department of Energy and the U.S. Air Force, and is continuing some of this work as a consultant. His research focuses on the application of artificial neural networks and fuzzy logic to problems in nonlinear control theory. He has been fortunate to be able to attract some research funding and to publish some papers, and expects to publish a research monograph in late 1992.

We hope this holiday season finds you and the ones you love well and we hope that during the coming year your lives will be filled full of happiness and peace.

*MERRY CHRISTMAS*

*Kevin, Tammy, Joshua, and Julia Moore*