Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to All of You!

This year has brought many changes to our lives. First of all Trent came into our lives. He is now over 7 months old and scooting everywhere. Our non-baby-proof house will have to be baby proofed soon or he will get into everything. Yesterday I found him with a potato in his mouth that he found under our kitchen table. Looks like mommy is going to have to keep the kitchen floor a little cleaner now! He is a sweet baby who always keeps us entertained.

David and Dean love their little brother. They are usually very gentle with him and are good little helpers. Trent always helps them to keep smiling. The biggest change with the boys this year has been potty training! They are finally in big boy underwear! We still have accidents here and there, but for the most part they are getting it. It has been so nice to only have one in diapers instead of three. They also love to do "Reader Rabbit" on the computer. It is fun to see them learn. They are like sponges and take in everything we say. Daddy and Mommy are having to be careful about what they say or else we will hear them repeat it a minute later.

I am busy with all the many areas of life. I am always looking for something new to do in our home. I am addicted to Home and Garden Television–they have so many ideas! This year I've done lots of curtains and other accessorizing. I was given a sewing machine this year and feel so blessed to be able to do my own projects! With my calling as Relief Society President I stay busy with that as well. We have a great ward and I have wonderful counselors, so my job is made a lot easier.

Matt has been busy as well with all of his many projects. Between that and being the community computer guy he is always doing something. We do get a chance to relax every once and a while and enjoy playing tennis together also. He wanted to do part of the letter this year, so I will turn the rest of it over to him.

Well, our family sure is growing! I can't believe we have 3 kids now. CRAZY! My work has gotten really hectic lately because we added a new company and a new office. I had to network the two offices together and write more programs for the new company. Fun stuff.

For the past 5 months, I've been writing a scifi/fantasy book. It's pretty good and I'm excited to get it published. It's not finished yet so I haven't sent it to an editor, agent, or publisher, but I have gotten some copyright permissions. If you're wondering, it's kind of a "Harry Potter meets Star Wars" book.

I'm a councilor in the Elders Quorum presidency and Alicia is the Relief Society president so, as you can imagine, we're pretty busy with church stuff as well. Our boys are so receptive to the Spirit. They love to pray and to read the scriptures. Sometimes they get too excited in the wrong things, though. For example, they like to act out scripture stories... like Amon cutting off the arms of the Lamanites or Nephi killing Laban. The other day, David said that he was King Noah and Dean said that he was a Lamanite.

We went to a wedding the other day and David told someone there that he was going to get married in the temple. Every time we go to a baptism they cry because they want to get baptized too. It's pretty cute to see how impressionable they are. Even when we walk through the grocery store, they point to the wine isle and say bad things about it. Trent brings such joy to our lives. He is the happiest baby I've ever seen. He just laughs and plays all day (of course, I'm not home when he's fussy so all I see is the good side of him). Life is good. That's all I can say. We are very happy with our new home and with how everything has fallen in place for us. I hope life is wonderful for you too. Please visit our website to see some pictures or videos of our family at: www.mattsfamily.com

Love,

Matt, Alicia, David, Dean, & Trent Peterson



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