

We hope you will enjoy . . .

“A Peek through the Window for Sights and Sounds at Our Homes”

December 2012

44th Edition

3428 Omar Lane, Plano, Texas 75023

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We appreciate your friendship and hope you also have been aware of the Lord's care this year. You are in our prayers because we know you have had challenges this year, too. We want to hear from you. “May He give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed.”

Psalm 20:4

The Albertsons

Howard - in Plano; independent broker for electricity in the Texas deregulated marketplace, doing legal research

Sharron - in Plano; Life Chain state director; Golden Corridor Republican Women (GCRW) advisory board, ways and means/directory chairman

Herb, Jenny, Abigail (18), **Ben** (16 ½), **Celeste** (13), **Daniel** (10 ½), **Ezekiel** (6 ½) and **Zachary** (2 ½) - in Sterling / Olathe, Kansas; Bursar at MidAmerica Nazarene University; home school mom; six active siblings

Shari, Eric, Mitch (6 ½), **Mandi** (5), **Michael** and **Melissa** (twins 3 ½) and **Miles** (2) **Earhart** - in Eure, North Carolina; stay-at-home mom; pastor of Upper Room Assembly of God Church in Gatesville; five energetic cherubs

Shirlene, Jeff, Lacie (11), **Andy** (8) and **Jacob** (5 ½) **Kazmaier** - in Olathe, Kansas; full-time mom; self-employed architect; three happy kids

Heather - in Dubai; middle school history teacher at American Academy in Al-Mizhar

If you can linger longer, here are a few of the year's events.

Howard helping commercial and residential accounts to save money on electricity using Cirro Energy, Direct Energy and Glacial Energy, doing legal research online, following friends' activities on Facebook, watching governmental missteps reported on FOX News; coping with the increasing challenges of Type 2 diabetes, driving with

Sharron to Oklahoma to be with Herb and Shari's families for Shari's 20th class reunion at Southern Nazarene University, watching 11 of our 14 grandchildren play at a park; updating <http://LifeChain.net> and helping publish another GCRW directory with information that Sharron collected

Sharron making hundreds of calls for GCRW as chairman of directory and ways and means committees, topping previous years' collections from sponsors; recruiting volunteers for several friends' successful election campaigns, receiving Tribute to Women and Volunteer of the Year awards with most volunteer hours in the state, campaigning in Virginia for Romney/Ryan; celebrating hundreds of books read by children and pre-teens as librarian at Richardson Church of the Nazarene; visiting with 150 Texas Life Chain coordinators as state director and with many of the coordinators in more than 1500 cities across the U.S. and Canada as coordinator of <http://LifeChain.net> for the 25th annual peaceful pro-life, prayer event on the first Sunday of October; glad that Kitty and Chihuahua Puppy are tolerating each other

Herb managing the student accounts office as Bursar at Mid America Nazarene University, Olathe, Kansas, commuting to Sterling, Kansas to be with his family on weekends, continuing work on his master's degree, volunteering at events in Kansas City; **Jenny** home-schooling three teens and three youngsters, babysitting two others, handwriting for Sterling Services, bringing in hundreds



Christmas 2011 at Shirlene and Jeff's home in Olathe, Kansas with Herb and Jenny's family – missing Shari and Eric's family in North Carolina, visiting on Skype with Heather in Vienna, Austria

of fall tomatoes, baking for local markets; **Abi** (18) in twelfth grade, taking daily walks with Jenny and the kids, helping Jenny babysit, attending high school camp, MNU Max as a participant in youth choir, and SNU College Days, counseling at children's camp; **Ben** (16 ½) in eleventh grade, making creative meals, playing basketball, operating the sound system at youth group, competing in teen Bible quizzing with Celeste, on the soccer team and displaying art at MNU Max; **Celeste** (12) in eighth grade, helping plan meals, advancing in teen quizzing and on the piano, enjoying her time with best friends from Hutchison Church of the Nazarene; **Daniel** (10 ½) in fifth grade, celebrating being top quizzer in a children's quiz, playing baseball, beginning followed everywhere by little brothers; **Ezekiel** (6½) having fun reading, asking for more



math, doing well in children's quizzing, glad to attend his first camp as a "real" camper; **Zachary** (2 ½) a big bundle of smiles and energy, talking to everyone even at the grocery store, wrestling with his brothers, thinking quietly and doing puzzles while humming; **all of them** enjoying Colorado with Uncle Rowan Albertson's family; Herb and Jenny celebrating their 20th anniversary in Estes Park; working as a family at district children's camp while Daniel and Zeke were campers; spending holidays with Jenny's mom, Sandy Zerby, in Bethany, Oklahoma; trusting the Lord to help them sell their home in Sterling so they can be in one place

Shari homeschooling her first grader and kindergartener, potty-training the twins while keeping Miles out of *everything*, making bread from freshly-ground wheat, packing all seven for a



trip through 13 states in 12 days to see cousins and to attend her 20th college reunion; **Eric** staying busy with projects at church, studying for an Organizational Leadership and Management degree at Regent University hoping to finish in December 2013, holding a workshop for pastors in Prague, Czech Republic, working on a 1967 jeep in his "spare" time; **Mitch** (6 ½) riding his new bike, reading and drawing endless plans for puppet shows and dramas for the other kids to present (hoping they will follow his directions), attempting to play the much-anticipated Christmas program songs on his guitar; **Mandi** (5) also riding her new bike, nipping at Mitch's heels in reading skills, hoping to be a nurse where children don't have enough medicine if Jesus tells her to, wishing for a teenaged girl cousin at home;

Michael (3 ½) loving hunting and motorcycles, taking Missi around the yard as his "daughter going hunting" then carrying a doll inside playing "family" with her; **Missi** (3 ½) running to help load the washer, playing school, learning the alphabet, cuddling one minute and dancing the next; **Miles** (almost 2) pulling a chair to the kitchen counter to sample the salt shaker or sugar bowl or use Mom's camera, asking to go "side" (outside), meeting the world head-on (literally); **all of them** glad for a visit from Grandma Albertson in October

Shirlene helping with Jacob's Bible Clubhouse Kids and Lacie's choir at Olathe College Church of the Nazarene; enjoying ladies' Bible study and Knowing MOMS; driving 88 miles each school day to take the kids to Whitefield Christian Academy in Kansas City, Missouri, going on field trips and volunteering with PTF; **Jeff** keeping busy on several projects in his architectural firm, serving on the church Sunday School Ministries Board, taking his family to Colorado to visit Shirlene's cousins and then to New Hampshire to enjoy time with his parents, three siblings and their families, visiting state capitols and Niagara Falls enroute; **both of them** teaching Andy's Sunday School class, having fun with kids, helping with homework, piano lessons, quizzing, and sports; **Lacie** (11) in fifth grade doing well at a classical Christian school as are Andy and Jacob; in church children's choir, Bible quizzing, Upward soccer, basketball, piano and swimming lessons; **Andy** (8) in second grade, playing Upward flag-football, basketball



and soccer, in kids' church choir, quizzing, piano and swimming lessons, helping Jeff with yard work; **Jacob** (5 ½) in Knowing Kids and Bible Clubhouse Kids, "finally" in kindergarten, playing and running outside whenever possible, attempting swimming lessons and trying to keep up with Lacie and Andy; **all of them** bringing their playful English Golden Retriever puppy to Plano for Thanksgiving where the "Kazmaier Movers" helped Grandma decorate for Christmas

Heather in her fifth year of teaching social studies at American Academy in Al-Mizhar as team leader, coordinating Week Without Walls field trips, attending senior prom, chaperoning a sleep-over at school and a three-day trip; spending

Christmas 2011 in Vienna, spring break in Doha, Qatar, a weekend in Ras Al Khaima (another emirate), July in Mumbai, India and Christmas 2012 in Lebanon; yachting around World Islands, visiting an art exhibition in Abu Dhabi; attending an Emirati wedding in a dress she designed using a sari (in photo), volunteering all year at the USO, tutoring and teaching English on the side; taking up yoga, losing 80 pounds, passing the GRE and paying off her Jeep!



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Our year in pictures may be found on <http://SharpWebPage.com>