

Christmas 2008

Dear family and friends,

Since last we met, I've learned a few more things about producing newsletters, part of my job at Newberg Friends Church. I can now make clickable links, opening many Internet doors without the need for publishing a web address. For example, all you need to do is click the word **here**, and you will be taken to our church's website. Cool, huh? The only down side is that clickable links are useless on the printed page. This letter will surely lack luster in our album of Christmas greetings that date back to 1969. Oh, well. Progress has its cost!

Blogging provides us with a handy repository for the stuff of our lives. Much of it is pure **blather**, but once in a while a post will capture a **family gathering or something historic** or an important **anniversary**. Last June I was busy **uploading pictures and posting reports** as we adventured through Scotland and England for two and a half weeks. We spent a week as part of **The Iona Community** on the Isle of Iona, Scotland, then rented a car and drove to London via Edinburgh, York, Lake District, and Yorkshire Dales. Now that we have **passports**, the sky's the limit, but we're both basically homebodies, and as much as we enjoyed our trip, the travel bug didn't bite us. We'll keep our passports handy, though, just in case.

Like I said, our daily lives are fairly cut and dried—we go to work and do our jobs. Unfortunately, after evening rehearsals and food, we're both good and ready to park in our comfy cookin' room chairs. Mauri is still recovering from a **knee scope**, and I'm still dealing with pain management from **our bike crash** two and a half years ago! So we sit, laptops open, a game or "Pride and Prejudice" (the Keira Knightley version) on the TV for background, reading blogs and **Facebook** updates.

Look one generation back, though, and your head will spin! Facebook keeps me connected with **Ben**. But in a recent e-mail I learned that his day job in the depressed auto industry earned him a "Chairman's Award for Customer Satisfaction and Employee Ingenuity as a member of the Plastics Integration Team. The Chairman's Award is the highest form of employee recognition at **Johnson Controls**." A mother has to brag a little, you know. I just hope it means he can survive the ongoing layoffs. **Quinn** still mothers **her three chicks** full time, especially now that **Dusty** travels so much for his job with **CMiC**. Together they led a work team from their Highlands Ranch, CO, church to Juarez, Mexico, to build homes. This is a **family effort**—all the kids work! Last year they came home with **a passion to help** the desperately needy **babies of Juarez**, and this year Quinn got to help with the actual distribution of the donated diapers and formula. **Rachel** still teaches 3rd grade at **Christopher Columbus Charter School**, and in May **John graduated** from **Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts**. While this is all wonderful, the best news from our Philadelphia "kids" is that **a new grandson** will make his appearance around Valentine's Day. **Pete** resigned from his job with Columbia Sportswear and now **works in real estate** with **Linsey**. They make a great team in both the workplace and the homeplace. They recently made an **impromptu trip to New York City**, thanks to Linsey's mom, who could fly them all free through her job with Alaska Airlines. **Taylor** still works as a medical equipment repair technician at **University of Colorado Hospital** in Denver. This year the hospital sent him to Ohio to train in radiology. We call that job security! And last, because they're the youngest but also the most adventurous, **JohnMacy** and **Erin**, who **saved their money**, quit their jobs, rented their house to college students, and launched out on a nine-month journey around the world. So far they've traveled to **Yosemite** (to get their feet wet close to home),



**Fiji**, and now **New Zealand**, where they're in their second of two months before moving on to Cambodia and other parts of Southeast Asia. We follow **their blog** religiously, and every now and then enjoy a **skype** conversation with them through our computers.

Last December we celebrated a **family Christmas in Breckenridge**, CO. And just a few weeks ago a smaller family group gathered for **Thanksgiving in Aspen**, CO. Our cup runneth over! Our observance of **Jesus' birthday** this year will include the traditional Christmas Eve services at NFC, and after that we'll hunker down with Pete and Lins for a smaller-than-usual family gathering. Mauri anticipates another January at the coast as he helps lead worship for four week-long retreats at the "**Center for Personal Growth in Christ.**" This will be his eighth year, and he appreciates the church's ongoing blessing for him to participate in this ministry away from home.

Are you completely worn out from all the links? I hope you have picked and chosen what caught your interest. I'll use the rest of the space for some pictures (you know me!) But first—if you are on Facebook and aren't already friends with Mauri and me, we would love to have you invite us to be your friends. So far, I'm the only Sherry Macy and Mauri's the only Mauri Macy, so we're easy to find.

With our love,  
**Sherry**  
Sherry (and Mauri)



in Edinburgh, Scotland



in York, England

Mauri's the  
master of the  
self-portrait.



celebrating our **14th anniversary**  
in **Troutdale, Oregon**



in Aspen, Colorado