



No matter how far apart we are, let us celebrate Christ's birth together!

Well, with that said we'll start with where we will be over Christmas - Mazatlan, Mexico! Becca's family is taking a trip down there and asked us to join them and we decided that we couldn't pass up a chance like that. Since it is Christmas week, there will be lots of parades and festivities going on in the town (something every night for that week) and we can't wait to be a part of it all. So, we'll think of all of you while we play on the beach. ;)

This year in review has been very packed with the wonderful things we have been able to do together. Last Christmas we were just announcing our engagement and we then tried to get as much planning done as possible before we had to start our semester. During the semester, we tried not to worry about the wedding and worry more about our grades (yeah right).

Over spring break we had the awesome opportunity to do a mission trip with Aggie Lutherans to Denver, Colorado. We worked with a group called Urban Plunge to help the homeless and jobless of Denver. It was a very humbling experience and we have fond memories of the people who touched us and how thankful they were that we would take time out of our lives to come help them all the way from Texas. Besides working with the women's shelter, taking meals to those bedridden, and helping to prepare meals for homeless, we were also able to meet with a group called the Guardian Angels to learn some self defense, take a tour of Denver, and go skiing for two days. It was a great week!

After that it seemed like no time passed and then we were getting married. Thank you to all of you who were able to be there and everyone else who supported us. We love you all very much! The wedding was beautiful and the reception was great. Along with some of Becca's scheming cousins making up a dance for us, we also got to sing the Aggie War Hymn, and do the Chicken Dance. We had a blast! The honeymoon was also very wonderful. We took a cruise to Cozumel, Mexico and during the two port days we toured Chitzen-Itza (Mayan Ruins) and snorkeled in the bay. There was great a nightlife schedule and we went to a musical number each night along with some comedians and other shows.

The rest of our summer was spent apart (sniff). Nate was at an internship in Austin for National Instruments and Becca was taking classes and also had an internship in College Station with Hewlett Packard. Needless to say we still saw each other every weekend. During that time we moved our stuff into our new one bedroom apartment. We are really enjoying it so far, the management is great and we aren't too crowded. Nate uses one of our closets as his office (its actually pretty large and works out well) and we did find an entertainment center for Nate's tv for our 'living room', curtains, and a bed for our bedroom.

This semester has been a challenge for both of us in many ways. Nate has major senioritis and is ready to be done (Dec 17!). He has been working with the Spacecraft Technology Center which is affiliated with Texas A&M and has mainly worked on a project designing a VCR for a camera that will go on the space station August 2005! Cool! He has been trying to negotiate a full time job with them starting in January so that he doesn't have to commute while Becca finishes up her degree. High hopes and lots of prayer . . .

Becca has been able to continue her internship as a part time position because the Hewlett Packard facility is located on campus and is easily accessible since we are down to one vehicle for right now. So this is her first semester where she has really had to balance a job and school and being married and all the other stuff that we are involved in. It has been a learning experience and it has been fun. She is hoping to graduate May 2005 and will be able to continue her internship until that time.

We have plans to take a trip to Germany over spring break with Aggie Lutherans and some members of our church in College Station. We will be touring areas and following Martin Luther's historical tracks. It will definitely be a great experience and hopefully we will learn a lot about our German and Lutheran heritage. More on that next year!

May God bless you throughout the holiday season and we love you,