December 14, 2009

Family and Friends,

It is that time of year again to summarize our crazy life. So here I go...

First and foremost, we added to our family this year. David Murdoch Hansen joined our family July 31st. He came out screaming and continued to do so for the next 4 hours, I won't lie, I was scared and joined in the crying too. But then he stopped and I've been head over heels ever since. I also haven't slept since then either. But I can't be too mad at him, he has big dimples and is quick to smile. He also has rolls on top of his rolls. When we change his diaper, we just laugh! I'm excited for David because he will have 4 cousins within 4 months of him, 3 on my side and one on Chad's. Every married couple (except mom and dad) in my family had a baby within 2 months!

Auretta Jo just loves her baby. She is always kissing, hugging, trying to hold and showing me where his eyes are. We have realized just how much of an April fools joke our little girl is this year (she was born on April 1st). She smiles and talks so cute and just steals your heart! And then when you aren't looking she is in the toilet, breaking Nativities, spilling red juice in the front room when two seconds ago she was at the kitchen table, stuck on the top bunk, throwing the wii remote away, all in all driving us crazy! Don't underestimate the tiny. Again, you can't help but love her. She spills, looks at you with big brown eyes and says, "I spill" in the cutest little girl voice. I guess I will just keep cleaning up after her and loving her just the same if not more.

Patrick is growing everyday. We have experienced so many new things with him this year, most of which are new fears including monsters in the bedroom, the dark, Halloween figures at the store, sharks, and car washes. Every time we drive pass one he yells, "I don't want to go in a car wash." But we have also enjoyed conversations with him. I love spending time with just him and hearing what he has to say. I wrote this in my journal in September, "The other day my eyes hurt and Patrick asked 'Why, because of the sun?' I said yes and he said, 'Oh, I'll move it.' What perfect and simple love... We told him his name is Chad Patrick and that dad's is Chad George and Patrick said, 'No,

dad is not Curious George.'" He makes us laugh everyday.

Chad is loving his job! He has said a few times this year that he can see himself working there forever. He got excepted to a CS Master's program at BYU starting in January 2010. And the contract states that we have to stay so long after that. So there is a minimum plan, we will see what the Lord has in store. Chad also started writing a book, many programs and numerous other projects this year.

Now about me, I could say I'm loving life, which is true. But I would only be telling part of the truth. I'm so tired! Not just sleepy tired, I'm tired from giving of myself all the time. I know that some people have the gift of the spirit to be and love being a stay at home mom, like my sister-in-law Laura, who I admire greatly. But it is hard for me. I want to go to work, but I also know that the cost for that want is too high. My kids will grow up. I try to remember this saying, "When raising small children, days go slow but years go fast." So I'm praying and working at enjoying the place that I am at in my life. And when I pray for it, those wonderful moments that will be gone all too soon are easier for me to see. Nothing changes, I just hear and see the happier parts. I'm so grateful for prayer and the help the Atonement gives me in so many different ways! I know that Christ is in the details of our lives and I am grateful for it. I love this time of year to contemplate our Lord and His birth so many years ago.

Merry Christmas,
Chad, Maggie Jo, Patrick, Auretta Jo, and David

p.s. Follow our story more often then once a year at chaggie.com