



Dear Friends,

2008 was a fantastic year, thanks be to God. We mentioned in last year's letter that we decided terminate our relationship with our largest client so that we could have more enjoyable days, and devote time to more important things. It took a few months to get most matters wrapped up, and we still get a call occasionally, but the results have been very good overall – especially for Steve's health (blood sugar down, blood pressure down, weight down, pain down) and attitude. We feel that we have achieved a much better balance between business and the more important things like friends, family, ministry, service, fun.

Business: Dossin Business Solutions still had a very good year. We picked up a couple of new clients. The most interesting project from those clients was to create a solution to an accounting situation not handled by standard accounting software. We could still use work to fill another day to day and a half per week for each of us. (We do pay finder's fees if any of y'all know of a business needing a solution, thanks :-)

Travel: We were able to take several trips this year, mostly catching up with friends and family. One of the most unusual was Steve's trip to a leadership conference held on the Gettysburg battlefield – a few examples of (good *and* bad) leadership there. The location allowed us to walk the paths taken in many of the actions within the battle. For example, we climbed Little Round Top (straight up the hill, not following the road with its switchbacks). That was hard enough for our group of guys in casual clothes on a cool Spring day, with bottled water at hand (unlike those soldiers who had just marched 26 hours in Summer heat to get to the battle). Also unlike them, we did not have the 20th Maine shooting down the hill at us!

Our longest trip was to New England. It started with the family gathering around the memorial service for Nita's Dad. We had 30 relatives there, many of whom Steve had never met. The service was outdoors, and the Lord blessed us with beautiful weather for the service itself, although rain forced us indoors for an evening campfire in Dad's honor. (He was an outdoorsman who authored four books on outdoor activities.) After time with family, we struck out for some site seeing around New England. Highlights included the discovery (for us) of the Currier Art Museum (Manchester NH) and Steve's first trip to Martha's Vineyard, where we were hosted by a friend from Steve's high school class and her husband. Pete turned out to be a special blessing for visitors as we found out that he had been a tour guide of the island in a past job.

Politics: A redesign of our ComingTogether.info website came at a good time to get greatly increased traffic (during the political campaign). We have added content related to the causes and solutions for the current "subprime financial crisis."

Ministry: We are in a small group which supports Bezeugen, a one-on-one evangelism ministry. We help with hosting some of their workshops. They've built an interesting website at afterlifecatalog.com. We have been updating our own ministry site (on stewardship) at living-the-abundant-life.org.

We tried something new for Halloween: we decorated our van for "Trunk or Treat." Instead of knocking on doors, kids come to a parking lot and gather goodies from the trunks of people's cars which have been decked out with harvest, fun or scary themes. Nita handed out treats at the hospital where she volunteers weekly, and also at our church. Her theme was "All About Angels."

We also thank God that He is present with end of life mercies. Not only did this year include the memorial service for Nita's Dad, we also laid to rest a dear friend from the singles group we both participated in before we married. We rejoice to know that we will see both Dad and Linda again!

Thanks to all who blessed us with Christmas greetings. We hope your holidays were joyful and that your New Year will be blessed! Hope you like the lighthouse photos. Jesus said, "I Am the Light of the World." (John 8:12) Let's walk in His Light in 2009.

Steve and nita

