

from the  
Sharrows  
Family

# SEASONS GREETINGS

## CATCHING UP ON 2010

### Sharrows @ Home

This year was marked by key milestones in the “house of marital bliss.” As we celebrated our 8th anniversary this spring there was the unique realization that it was the last anniversary we would celebrate as “just us.” In February we found out that we were expecting! In June we learned (to our surprise) we would be having a little girl. Much of the year was shaped by anticipating and preparing for the long awaited venture into parenthood. Mike’s old home office was converted into a nursery, books like *Babywise* found their way to our nightstands and lots of planning for “the future” was the topic of much discussion. The first few weeks of parenthood were rich. What a beautiful baby girl God blessed us with! We find ourselves marveling at the miracle of a life, the expressions of personality and anticipation of seeing who she’ll become!



### Meet Elayna Joy

*Tuesday,  
October 26 we  
casually drove to*

*Methodist Hospital around Noon. Nine hours later a little 7lb 4oz bundle of joy entered the world. She's sweet spirited, pretty easy going, a big fan of bath time with Daddy, keeping Mommy busy and unfamiliar with the concept of sleeping through the night just yet! Her name means, "radiant, shining, brilliant" and we've found her to live up to it so far!*

### Sharrows @ Work

Quite a few developments transpired on the work front in 2010. Jacqui transitioned from full-time work at Grace Point as the executive assistant to the senior pastor to being a full-time Mom and home-maker. She feels so blessed to be leaving a job she really loved for another role she's excited to dive into! Mike continued in his role as associate pastor, but with a lot more fun this year as the empty staff positions he ended 2009 with were filled with great folks who quickly became friends and collaborators in ministry. In support of our desire for Jacqui to stay home with the baby, Mike also launched a consulting business, TQ Strategies, to provide part-time work to offset expenses and such. It has proven a fun area in which God has really provided both resources and opportunity for new relationships! The work arena is always one where God seems to bring variety, discovery and consistent demonstration of His provision and purpose for us.

## Sharrows @ Play

2010 was a year full of rich experiences and opportunities to explore, celebrate and contribute in unique ways. Our life group won the grand prize for a publisher contest last winter that paid for our entire group to fly out to North Carolina for a few days - a crazy opportunity and a lot of

fun being in community! We



planned an anniversary getaway (before knowing we'd be pregnant) in the Caribbean, enjoying a few days of pure relaxation, reading and reflecting in St. Lucia. While morning sickness put a slight wrinkle in things, it was still a wonderful time together. Mike had the opportunity to go to Costa Rica on a mission discovery trip, checking out a theological and leadership training center serving all of Latin America - neat blend of ministry, strategy and cross-cultural engagements! As summer rolled around we decided that the House of Marital Bliss should make one last road trip as a party of 2 before the

baby came, so in July we had a "babymoon" trip to Carlsbad Caverns (just down the road a few hours from San Antonio). It was a fun time of hiking, exploration and then in the evenings brainstorming about the future of our family - what would our mission be? values? oh the decisions!

## Looking @ 2011

We're looking forward to discovering what the first year of parenthood, first year of a new home life, fourth year in full-time ministry and 5th year (!!) in Texas brings!

