

Merry Christmas

2009

Praise the name of God forever, for he has all wisdom and power. He controls the course of world events; he removes kings and sets up other kings. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the scholars. He reveals deep and mysterious things and knows what lies hidden in darkness...
Daniel 2:20-22



2009 & Beyond!

We hope this finds you celebrating the closing of a robust year, savoring the holidays and anticipating the unknown of 2010. As seems to be more the norm in our world, the rate of activity/change continues to make us seize intentional moments to savor holidays, relationships and opportunity. Enjoy the opportunities to

celebrate the mystery behind the holidays and enjoy memorable moments with those you love as we usher in 2010 together!

Sharrows @ Work

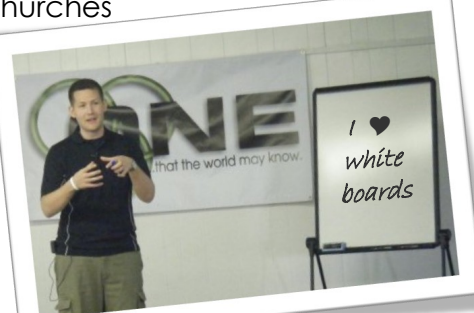
This was our first full year of both being on staff at Grace Point. It's been fun getting to work towards the "big picture" of things around the church from

unique roles. Jacqui continues to enjoy her role as executive assistant to the senior and executive pastors at Grace Point.

It's been a busy year between a 3 month sabbatical during which she coordinated guest speakers, and special events under her volunteer role on the marriage and family ministry team. Things like a Fireproof Movie Night, co-teaching a Love & Respect class w/Mike and delivering complimentary workshops w/Mike at the marriage retreat were fun. Premarital counseling is something we collaborated in a lot more this year.

Mike had a busy year with the small group ministry rapidly expanding, preaching more, and a lot of projects. This fall he invested a lot of time into a church-wide initiative we did called "Immersion," where everyone listened through the New Testament via MP3 over 40 days. It was exciting to be part

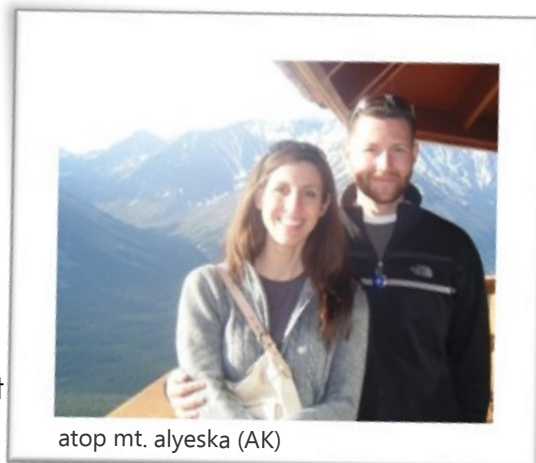
of something so far-reaching and now beginning to take root in other churches regionally. This fall his role broadened as he took on an associate pastor role, bringing children's, youth and college under a "generational" ministry umbrella. Mike will be working with this group to pursue integration in discipleship and planning. The fall was busy with some key staff changes that added a twist to things. He's excited about the new year and what it will be like to have some new team members. He's also stoked about a recent and ridiculously large whiteboard acquisition at church. Does that make him weird?



from
Mike & Jacqui

Sharrows @ Play

Amidst the activities of ministry stuff we have enjoyed getting to steal away time for new experiences, time with friends & family, hanging with our life group (the Gathering) and savoring life. In the spring we went up to Alaska for a week to visit Mike's family. Boy is it gorgeous up there! On the way back we did a road trip from Seattle to San Diego along the famous "Pacific Coast Hwy," and gosh that drive was intoxicatingly good—the views, landscapes and time was very rejuvenating! We took in some good South Texas hiking and even a life group cabin trip before the 2 months of 100+ degree heat struck San Antonio (Mike calls it Northern Hades!). We enjoyed hosting family as Mike's grandparents from Alaska and Jacqui's family from Iowa, Kansas City, Tucson visited throughout the year.



atop mt. alyeska (AK)

The year had its up and downs, but in it all we have the chance to trust, hope and savor the abundance we possess all the more. This fall Jacqui's sister, Laurie, also deployed for her 3rd tour to Iraq—firing up a blend of pride for her courageous service and the prayer engines for the family.

Ultimately, we live resting in a life abundant in Christ. Extravagantly blessed in life with peace, joy, relationships, meaningful ministry, experiences that lead to a heart of worship and a sense of hopeful excitement for the year ahead. We wish you all the best this season and in the year to come. Chase the bliss, live on purpose and receive with open hands!



northern california

