

The Kellogg's Christmas 2001 Letter

And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2: 10-11

Christmas Greetings and Hello from the Kellogg's! 'Tis the Season. Christmas is fast approaching, so we present to you our first Christmas letter. As this past year is coming to a close, and with all that our nation is going



through, we wanted to pause and reflect on all the blessings that have taken place within our family this year. We are thankful for so much. Top on the list is Jacob. Last year at this time, Jake was 6 months old and not really into much. However this year is a different story. It amazes us that someone so small can "rule the roost"! We have been tempted many times to change the message on our answering machine to "You have reached the house where Jacob rules"....

Seriously, He is a wonderful little boy with an exuberant amount of energy and blond curly hair! He just turned 18 months and brings us great joy on a daily basis, though his parent's often go to bed at night exhausted and praying for more wisdom and grace for another day. This truly has been a year of 'firsts' for us all. We have experienced Jacob's first steps (which by the way happened at 10 ½ months.... ugh), his first foods, the funniest and messiest being ravioli, his first words, which was "NO" of course, his first haircut, and his first Halloween costume. He didn't actually go trick or treating, but a friend gave us a Champ monster costume, so we let him wear it around the house for fun. He looked adorable!

Those are the highlights, but let's start back at the beginning of the year...Who would have known a year ago we'd have 3 weddings to go to on the Letourneau side of the family. John, Jim and Donna all were married this year.... Halleluia! That's where we think Jacob learned to dance. We are thankful that the Kellogg side has had a relatively uneventful year, though we did attend a family reunion where Jake finally met his great grandmother Katherine.



This past summer, Jacob had his first airplane ride when we went on vacation to visit Marybeth's sister Anne and her family in North Carolina. He only screamed for the first leg of the flight. Much better then having him screaming for the 20 hour car ride it would have taken us had we not decided to fly! Being in an airplane was a big thrill for Jake, so much so, that now we have to stop to look at every airplane that flies over. Construction trucks and trains have the same effect. He is all boy! We also found out how much that Jacob loves water. It can be in a pool, puddle, bathtub, or glass, it doesn't matter, he wants to be in it!



Jacob celebrated his one year birthday in June with a party full of friends and family. It was a beautiful day. That's when he experienced what he would tell you is his favorite milestone, the ability to eat cake and ice cream! He loved it! That's also when we began to see his little sweet tooth emerge. Now, he prefers doughnuts ("Doughna "as he would say it) to toast or cereal, which presents a problem for daddy, because now there's competition for all their favorite foods and leftovers!



We also have two new additions that were added to our family this past summer as well. It's a boy and a girl. Chloe and Simon who are our new maine coon kittens. Gottcha... we know what some of you were probably thinking! Anyway, Jacob adores his kitties, or as he calls them..."itties". They provide him with hours of fun. Chloe especially is a natural born baby sitter. She goes wherever he goes.



So, as you can see we have been busy watching Jake grow and becoming his own person. It's an amazing thing. You probably wondering how the rest of us are doing. Not much is new with us. Marybeth is still working three days a week in Cytology at Fletcher Allen and busy the other days taking care of Jacob. Tom is still in Radiation Safety at UVM. We both are still active in our church, but have scaled back a little so we can spend more time with Jake.



That's about it. We do pray that this Christmas season will find you healthy and filled with an abundance of His Peace, Hope and Joy as we head into a New Year.

Christmas Blessings to you all!!



*H
M*



E-mail us.....
Thomas.Kellogg@uvm.edu
Marybeth.Kellogg@vtmednet.org