

Christmas, 2007

The Hawaiian outfits that came from Grandma and Grandpa Sharp show how L-R: Ammon (6), Miranda (4), Leah (1), and Tristian (8) like to dress all year long. Fortunately in Tucson that's possible! If you're interested in following some of our activities from time to time, please visit our new web log on the internet: blog.schulzke.org



Mandy's siblings and family are all here in Arizona, while Quintus' have now spread so far west they've hit the Far East (Taiwan). Therefore, it was a rare treat that we could visit with most of the Schulzke family here in our home this year. Quintus has six brothers, and three of them were here with their families in the spring. Trajan & Julia's road trip from Quebec brought the child count in our home up to 10! Our children also met their Aunt-to-be, Paula, just before she married Tyrus in June. Fortunately Mandy & Quintus could visit with Talsan & Alesha too while in Toronto for the wedding, so we only missed Lanzer who's finishing up his mission in Oregon.

To our acquaintances past and present, we encourage you all to seek after and believe in that eternal life made possible through our Savior, Jesus Christ, because at least one thing is certain: we will need some portion of eternity to fill each other in on all the wonderful details of our lives. So, we take no offense if you read no further and pick up a good book instead! ☺ Each of our children have excelled in diverse ways this year.

Tristian, an exceptional swimmer, is getting his butterfly better to master the IM, but in his love of sports, football is still #1; we thank Spencer Larsen #51 of the Arizona Wildcats (soon to be in the NFL) for the time and attention he gave to us this season—and what a great season it was for him! A goal, realized for Tristian through years of caring for his lizards, was met in November when we adopted a Min Pin (dog) named Emmy. All the children are enjoying her!




Leah is our little angel with delicate fingers that have an attraction to everything, but she uses them oh so well on the piano too—no hand



banging from this little one. Yet, no article is too far out of reach that she can't find a combination of chair heights to reach it—no kidding. We think she must be the angel that inspired stair and ladder makers throughout the ages.



Miranda, ahem, Princess Miranda , remains our favorite fashion model and hair stylist. She models most of her clothes every day, and when she wants a change in hair style happens across a pair of scissors—well, at least twice this year anyhow. Each correction delays any chance of growing her hair out, but she is a lovely girl, she loves to dance, and is a very good helper around the house. She especially loves to join us in the kitchen.



Ammon can read this letter! Congratulations, Ammon on excelling in your reading & writing. No one can dispute his abilities as he leaves daily proof in the form of notes all over the house, and he loves to read, especially when it's bed time! ☺ Oh, and don't you even have thoughts about challenging Ammon physically—sure, he's got a build and determination that'll bowl you over anyhow, but he started refining his skills with Karate.

Let the third person descriptions begin! Teacher of the year for four straight years, Mandy, is doing a wonderful job of educating our children. She's very resourceful and never ceases to be a personal example of reading and learning. Mandy's also established a good routine of exercise for herself and all the children, and it's keeping us all healthy, wealthy ("He that hath eternal life is rich"), and wise!

Quintus can reflect back on the year with no clear certainty as to what he's accomplished except that another year has gone by and his family is happy, each having many accomplishments of his or her own. What more could he ask for?! A Christmas tradition that can't be broken is dusting off his Trombone to play again (oh, that it were more than an annual event!)—this time in Michael Turnblom's debut of Bethlehem, an oratorio. I've blown my horn now.



Good tidings of comfort and joy to all of you, our friends and family!

**Love from, Quintus
& Mandy**

