

Love never gives up.
Love cares more for others than for self.
Love doesn't want what it doesn't have.

Love doesn't strut,
Doesn't have a swelled head,
Doesn't force itself on others,
Isn't always "me first,"
Doesn't fly off the handle,
Doesn't keep score of the sins of others,
Doesn't revel when others grovel,
Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth,
Puts up with anything,
Trusts God always,
Always looks for the best,
Never looks back,
But keeps going to the end.

Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love
extravagantly.

And the best of the three is love.

I Corinthians 13

The Message

Family Reunion



August 2009

“In family life, love is the oil that eases friction,
the cement that binds closer together,
and the music that brings
harmony.”

-Eva Burrows

Don & Jeanne Zelen

Don & Jeanne are both retired, living in Canby, Oregon. Don enjoys working out at Balley's five mornings a week. Jeanne works part-time as a retiree for the state of Oregon on contract. The contract is up in December. This fall Jeanne is scheduled to have a knee replacement. We enjoy having all six of our children within driving distance. We attend as many activities with them as we can. Life is very good.

Thom & Debra Sullivan

Thom and I have had a lot of changes in the last year. I am still working for the State of Oregon, but went down to 20 hours a week in Sept. of 08. With Freightliner closing its Portland location, where Thom has worked the last 15 years, and all the politics involved and loss of pension danger, Thom took earlier retirement as of March of 2009. In May, our Heather was injured very badly, destroying her ankle. She is still recovering. Thom's father, Thom Sr., moved in with us for a couple of months while he looked for an independent living facility in Portland. He has lived in Phoenix for the last 7 years. Thom's mom, Jean died almost 4 years ago. We are up to 5 grandbabies now with the arrival of Finley on Feb. 27-8, 2009. Shae and Riley turned 10 and Genna 7 in July. Truitt turned 2 in May. All are well and beautiful, as are our 4 daughters and their spouses.

Marc & Stephanie Sobottke

The Sobottke girls are growing up! The twins were newborns at the last family reunion we attended. All three girls celebrated birthdays in July. Shae and Riley are ten years old now and Genna is seven years old. We enjoyed our time in Chicago but are happy to be back in the Northwest near family. The girls are enrolled part-time in a Parent Partnered Arts and Culture Program and are home schooled for the rest. They are really thriving and love learning. Marc is busy at Boeing and working on a Six Sigma Black Belt Certification at Portland State (it has to do with statistics). I'm enjoying my time with the girls and our family and I feel really blessed.

Don & Sue Davis

The Davis family is doing well. Don is doing finish carpentry and with the economy, it has been worrisome, but so far he has had work come in just in time. I am working at the State of Oregon PERS and I enjoy my work, and carpooling with Mom to work a couple days a week. I recently got a puppy, Penelope, Penny for short and she is a delight and a challenge. I forgot how much work puppies are. Spencer is going into his freshman year at Canby High and is very excited to be out of middle school and be at the high school with his friends. He plays the drums and has for 4 years. He is on the high school drumline and also marching band. He likes a lot of instruments and teaches himself with the help of the internet and books, guitar, keys, etc. Most importantly of all he is dedicated to the Lord and is active with the youth group, missions, and discipleship classes called G.E.A.R. (Getting Empowered, Anointed, and Released).

Kristina Davis

After graduating from Immersion Discipleship in July of 2007, (a two-year leadership development program at New Life Foursquare Church), I was invited to stay on for a third year paid Apprenticeship and was asked to continue on as paid staff from 08 to the present! I currently work as the Immersion Discipleship Coordinator, a Ministry Assistant and also the Administrative Assistant to the Youth Director. I have grown immensely and love being a part of this community. It's opened up so many doors to travel as well, including a trip to Israel I took this last March. That was astounding! As for future plans, I am pursuing my Pastor's license with Foursquare and expect to continue working at New Life. I'd also love to finish school and move out, but like Dr. Leo Marvin says on *What About Bob?*, "BABY STEPS."

Nancy & Nickolas Ament

Nancy had a wonderful trip to Hawaii last year and is moving on to a new season in her life. She enjoys watching her wonderful grand-daughter Sonora a couple of times a week. She works part time at the Lake House restaurant in Lake Oswego making sure that the flowers are gorgeous and the patio looking out on the lake is beautiful. She is the 'Director of Beautification'! Nickolas turned 16 this last July and got his driver's license. He is going to be a junior at Canby High and lettered in Snowboarding last year and will be on the snowboard team again this year. He is also in choir at school and youth group at church.

Ryan & Melissa Gallagher

Ryan and Melissa Gallagher have been living in SE Portland, Oregon, Woodstock area, for 2 years now. They recently celebrated their 2nd year of marriage. Ryan is working as an inside sales representative at Transcore. Melissa is a color designer at Nike in Beaverton. Both have been enjoying the hot summer with many outdoor events, as well as enjoying their time at home with their two cats, Jet and Jagger. Ryan is currently attending school at Portland State University for a Graphic Design degree, his first degree was in Liberal Art. Ryan and Melissa are very excited about the new addition to their home, a 1907 Chandler & Price letterpress, which they hope will be the beginning of a great adventure in the world of printing.

Don John Zelen

Here is what I've been up to the past five years since we held our last family reunion. I decided to focus my efforts towards Film Production and Music. Now I am a drummer in a national touring band "Black Haze" and have been writing screenplays, and developing a Film and Production Studio. All of this consumes every minute of my life. All of this work came at a great sacrifice and love and support from my family and friends. Take the thing that you love and make it your life, this has been my mantra over the past five years. It took me a long time to figure out what and who I am. Now I know, and love pursuing my dreams.

Nathan & Tanya Zelen

The biggest news of late: We welcomed baby Ethan Sawyer Zelen to our family on Sunday, May 24th. He's a happy, healthy boy and I know he's looking forward to meeting everyone at the reunion! Christian is now 5 years old and is looking forward to Kindergarten at his big sister Lauren's school this fall. Lauren is now 8 years old and she lost her 8th tooth on her 8th birthday. Tanya has been enjoying her maternity leave this summer, but is looking forward to fall and all the fun holidays. Nate is continuing his graphic design work and has enjoyed teasing Tanya that a fourth baby would be really great to think about...

Ben & Marcy Zelen

Marcy and I are living in Pasco, Washington. Pasco is one of the three cities that make up the Tri-Cities. We both work for the Department of Energy. Marcy is a Contract Specialist and I am an Environmental Attorney. We work in the same building and are only separated by three floors. We are working on the cleanup of the superfund site at Hanford. Hanford was an integral part of the Manhattan Project. Marcy is eight months pregnant at this time and is due on September 17th. We are having a little girl, but do not have the name picked out yet.

Jim & Charlotte Francis

In May, we were delighted to hear the news that our son Ryan and his wife Lauren had twin boys. Their names are James and Dylan Francis. In June, Char traveled to California to visit family there. She celebrated Jael's graduation, birthday and send off to school in Kansas City. Char accompanied Valerie and Julissa to get Jael settled in at IHOP (International House of Prayer). Jim had a "perfect motorcycle trip" with James Alan, Dan and Jason around Bend, Oregon. Our church camp week at Ross Point, Idaho was so much fun we plan to go next year. Grandson Christopher was baptized by grandpa at camp. Our granddaughter Alisha and grandson Cooper are living temporarily with us until August 20 as her husband Aaron is to be deployed to Baghdad as soon as their new baby boy Emmett is born next month. Cooper and great-grandma have had some fun times together. This week, Jim and I had a nice visit with Sarah before her trip to Paris with her grandma Sherry & aunt. Char goes to "morning watch" prayer for Israel and Curves. Our "playpen" at 800 Academy is a busy place. Jim still works at Norpac, drives a VW bug and still weight lifts.

Shelley Walker

I have joined the Salvation Army and am a Soldier. Since I now have a car, I am able to become more involved too. I have a local officer's commission as the Secretary for the Home League, which is the women's ministry. I also lead a Wednesday night Bible study and teach an early elementary Sunday school class. A few months ago I began to volunteer in the corps office as a receptionist for 12 hours each week. In the Spring I went to Moses Lake, WA for a women's conference with the Home League. I am so happy to be involved with a church that has so much outreach to the poor and outcasts in our community. I hope to be moving soon into the same complex where my niece, Alisha, will live and I plan to help her out with her "soon to be born" baby and her two year old, Cooper.

James & Valerie Walker

As usual life is interesting. If you are on face book I am sure you can see recent photos and updates on the happenings here. James is still practicing law and has been playing in several bands. He loves to run sound for bands at corporate gigs and weddings. He also plays on our worship team at our church. He stays very busy. James IV is living in San Diego and hoping to go to the university down there. He is planning on majoring in business. He has found a great church called the "Flood" and is enjoying that. He spends a lot of time bike riding, surfing, hiking and running. He says San Diego is the next best thing to Hawaii. Josiah is in a band called "Bidwell". They have done a lot of touring over the past several years. You can see them on MySpace. They have even toured with "Warp Tour". They have played at House of Blues in Disney Land and The Glass House, The Roxy and many more fun venues. He is having a blast. He met his girl friend, Jessica, while touring last summer. She is from Colorado but moving here in a few weeks.

Everyone loves her she is a great addition to our family! Jael graduated this year and immediately moved to Kansas City. She is involved at International House of Prayer aka: IHOP. She is doing a six month internship called "Fire in the Night". She hopes to stay out there and attend the "Call Institute" and hopes to join their team in a year or so and travel with "The Call". It is a prayer ministry holding prayer vigils around the world. Jael has a passion for prayer!

Julissa is going into 7th grade this year. She spends her time dancing, singing, horseback ridding, and reading "Twilight". She will be changing schools this year. She will be attending a local charter school. She got accepted into their Accelerated leaning Program "ALA". She is a little nervous about it but is looking forward to the challenge.

As for me I just make sure everyone is doing what they are suppose to be doing. I have been helping James in his office but will not be doing that this year so I can help Julissa with her schedule. I may take a few computer classes at the local college.

Chris & Suzi Walker

This has been another year of transitions for the Walker family. During the remodel of our house, Kyle has graduated from high school and will soon be off to Air Force basic. Sarah is now 16 and we are looking forward to gaining a driver in the house! She is planning on volleyball again this year with a dose of cheerleading for fun. Christopher is our gifted band student among other things and will try his hand at the piano this year. Haley will hopefully expend her entire amount of energy on the soccer field and begin her second year with the flute in the school band. Chris and Suzi will be celebrating in December since our house will be complete and Suzi will be done with grad school!! What will we do with all that spare time?? We are crazy busy and most of the time just crazy. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the reunion.

Dan Walker

Dan is a semi-permanent Cali resident living in the east bay. Working as a nursing supervisor here. Still single so any cute Christian friends of the family..... Have my second grandson due towards end of year. Looking at going back to school for a business degree, maybe! Love ya all. Please get a hold of me when anyone is in the bay area.

Barbara Foreman

There is not much new in my life since I lost Jack, however, I am going to work at Jack's old office for Matt two days a week now. They keep supporting me generously which enables me to stay in my house. I started a new branch and can use my skills. I really enjoy it. Otherwise I am watching my grandchildren a lot, they will be over for pool time momentarily! The biggest thing is that Natalie (Alan's ex-wife) and my granddaughter Brianna are moving back to Texas. Natalie is staying with me for a while and Brianna is staying with us or Alan. This is a happy event for all of us. Of course it is sad that Natalie's marriage did not work out, but having them back is really wonderful. Alan is so happy to have Brianna here. She is 13 now and is already registered in Middle school here in Colleyville. Jack would be so happy to have them back.

So my life is pretty busy. I spent a week in Florida at Cocoa Beach with my German friends and Jay last month, my first time in Florida and such fun. My AC ended up costing me \$5100, so no more trips for me this year :(Heidi and Lothart are coming for a month in October.

That's about it, keep me in your prayers, I am still struggling with losing Jack but this is something I will never get over.

Pat & Amy Foreman

Pat, Amy, Ethan, and Vance are enjoying life in Southlake, Texas. We are a wellness-focused family. Meaning, we do our best to be mindful of how we live our lives while trying to have fun and maintain balance. Living holistically, while eating whole, organic, and preferably local foods is important to us. As is doing what we can to broaden our minds and hearts. Pat is still working at Fidelity Investments as an IT Manager; he's been with the company for 13 years now...hard to believe. He is an active dad who is very involved in Ethan and Vance's lives. Pat enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, listening to music, reading, cycling, and just recently, yoga. Amy is enjoying teaching yoga as a part-time job. She takes care of the boys full-time...what a blessing. The boys are fantastic! Ethan (E) will be six in October, and Vance turned two in August. E is starting kindergarten in about a week, and Vance will begin preschool early September. Barb is extremely involved in the boy's lives; it's hard to put into words how grateful we are for that! E and Vance call Barb, "Mima"; you should see them light up when they are around her. She is a wonderful grandmother...and an amazing women. All of us still miss Jack dearly, but his memory and spirit is still very alive and present in our lives. Even though Vance only met Jack once, when he was 5 months old, every time he sees his picture, he says, "Papa!"

Terry & Eileen Zimmerman

This year is turning out to be a year of changes! Terry's mom Velma from Bloomington, Indiana, moved into our home the end of May. We are so happy that Velma is with us and not living alone anymore! "Tootsie Wootsie" came to live with us in March to be a companion to our "Tipper" .both schipperkes. They are a source of fun and laughter. Terry's plant is closing so he will be taking an early retirement the middle of October. Knee replacement surgery in July 2007 has enabled me to continue working part-time doing market research (lots of standing/walking!) Through every change, we are thankful for all the Lord's blessings in our lives!

Jeff & Jenny Brotherton

We began the year with a ½ empty nest! Joanna, who turned 20 this year, moved out in January. She is sharing rent with several other college students on a cute house here in Longview near Lake Sacajawea. She works at Ross and loves the bargains she gets ☺, but is hoping to find a job that gives her more hours. In May, she finished her two-year degree from Lower Columbia College, and is now surveying the horizon for her next step! Josh is beginning his senior year in high school this fall. Last school year he discovered an interest in performing! He joined an evangelism team at his school that combines song, dance and testimony and shares them at local churches throughout the community. He was given several solos and enjoyed the challenge! But his greatest "love" is basketball! He's been on his high school team the last three years, and last year as the team captain. Jeff's biggest challenge this year has been to adjust to day shift after spending 21 ½ years on night shift! He is still working at Intel, but day shift gives him more time with the family. And the biggest change for me (and most recent..effective as of today!) is that after 11 years, I am resigning from my work in market research! Changes in the company and an impending neck surgery have led me to make this decision. So I guess Joanna and I both are surveying the horizon for our next step!

"But as for me, how good it is to be near God!
I have made the Sovereign LORD my shelter,
and I will tell everyone about the wonderful things You do."

Psalm 73:28

Jon & Laura Umfleet

Enjoying life and keeping busy! Jon continues to work at A-dec as well as teaching business classes at George Fox University. He is involved with the music ministry at church running sound as well as 'mixing' for worship recordings. His passion for motorcycle racing has broadened into a love of bicycling as well, something the whole family can enjoy together. Laura is enjoying her leadership roles in the children's, women's and worship ministries at church. Scrap booking is still a favorite past time for her when she can squeeze it into the schedule! Marc is 15 now, starting high school this fall, and getting ready to get his driver's license! He is involved in worship at church, and has formed a band with his friends called, "Scars Remain". Alison turned the big "13" this year! She is a natural leader and loves all things school, social & silly (ask her about her stripped socks)! Levi is 9 and full of energy! He loves learning and has a knack for memorizing! We are still slowly recovering from our remodel last year but are really enjoying the increased space! God is good all the time...All the time, God is GOOD!!

Chris & Kim Foreman

We are prospering. Chris is enjoying his "encore career". The church that he is pastoring is growing as God continues to bless us. The weekly cycle of two sermons on Sunday and a Wednesday lesson is challenging, but allows Chris to pursue his greatest passion: digging into God's Word, mining its nuggets, and sharing the gold of the Gospel. It's the best job in the world. *Come and See Africa* is moving along. Chris just returned from Africa on July 28 and is now busy raising funds to complete a Christian Campus House near the University of Rwanda. Help, Help! He also is continuing a ministry at San Quentin prison. Chris will be receiving his Army Reserve retirement on his upcoming milestone birthday and hopes to travel more with Kim.

Kim is on summer break from San Francisco State University. She just finished teaching adults at a Vacation Bible School and had lots of fun. Chris and Kim moved out of the church parsonage and into a nearby condominium on May first. It's about a 15-minute drive from church. We enjoy the condo lifestyle [security and no grass to cut]. Kim swims every morning in a pool that's just outside the door.

Zachary is pursuing the life of a scholar. He is continuing his studies at Catholic University in Washington DC and is almost an "ABD" [All-but-dissertation]. He recently passed proficiency tests in German and French. He is working at irregular intervals for *Powerscore*, an organization that prepares students for testing in the SAT, GRE, and LSAT. [You know he's smart because he had to score in the 99th percentile to qualify to teach each class.] Zachary will be teaching undergraduate philosophy classes in the fall.

Simon is pursuing the life of an artist. He continues to live in Brooklyn in a space he describes as a "hoffudio" [home+office+studio]. He has been trying to knit together a living by selling art and doing computer contract work, but today [8/11/09] he begins a regular temporary job. His wife Dilia is doing fine as are the three dogs: Ike, Stella, & Baron. Of course the biggest news was the sprouting of a brand new bud on the family tree. Lorenzo Hugo Oron Foreman - our first grandson - arrived on February 8 and just celebrated his one-half birthday.

Frank & Lelia Foreman

Frank and Lelia are living in Vancouver with two little Chinese crested dogs and an elderly friend from church named John Martin. Frank is just starting his fourth year in private practice. Lelia continues writing and gardening.

Josh and Heather live in a condo in Kirkland. They have been married now for nearly four years. Josh is in his sixth year working for Arena-net, which makes online games. Justin is 13 and Shane is 10 and are doing well.

Lucinda lives three blocks from Frank and Lelia. Her cousin Aletha Bakke is her companion home provider. She is still satisfied with her life.

John is still renting a room from Josh in Kirkland. However, he is between computer game programmer jobs and needs to find a new one fast. This year he was diagnosed with a rare back arthritis and is quite a bit of chronic pain.

Amber has an apartment in Portland where she lives with Xyia, who is a year and a half old. She is very busy, working as a CNA five days a week and going to beauty school three days a week.

David and Melissa are expecting their first baby, a boy, in October. He is a Survival School Trainer at Fairchild Air Force Base, near Spokane.