

# Grzybowski Family Newsletter

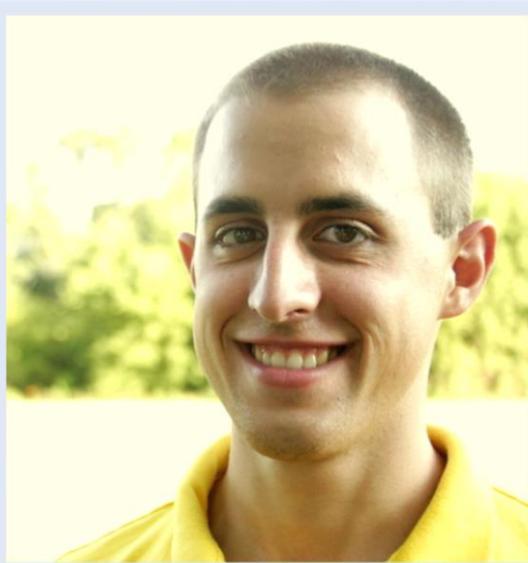


Children  
are a gift  
from the  
Lord . . .  
Blessed is  
the man  
whose  
quiver is full  
of them.  
AMEN!



**Twenty-four years and  
still crazy in love with  
each other.**

**Wishing You Blessing Upon Blessing This Coming Year!**



Luke, twenty-two, is finishing his final year at Davenport University. Lord willing, he will graduate next year with a Bachelors Degree in Paralegal Studies. He also works at Davenport for the Department Chair for Paralegal Studies to pay for his tuition. If all continues as planned, he will graduate from college without any debt. A true provision from the Lord. He thoroughly enjoyed serving at Cooley Law School's Access to Justice Clinic this past year. He has a servant's heart and the Lord used that gift to provide him with a tremendous amount of experience as well as some wonderful contacts.



Joshua, twenty, is in his third year at Davenport and has switched his major to Web Design & Development. He also works at Davenport in a computer lab helping other students. He too, has a servant's heart. He has been instrumental in all things computer as it relates to our family business. He has been volunteering at Love Inc. here in Allendale for over a year. He is their 'Jack of all trades' in relation to computers and office work.

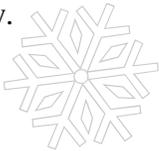
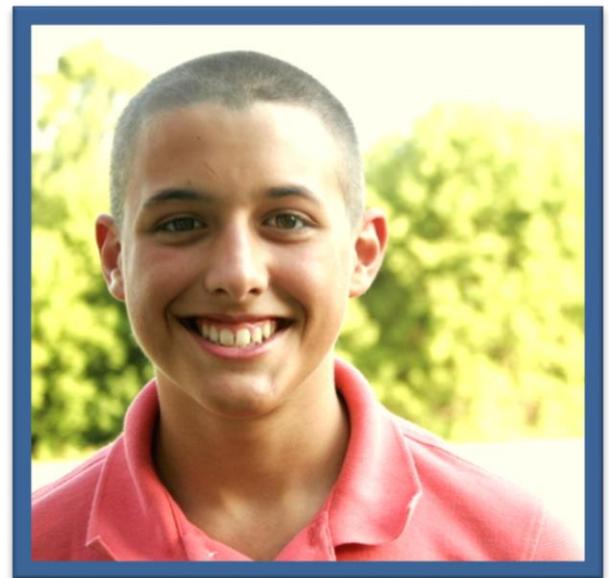




Victoria will be seventeen in a few months. I can hardly fathom how this is possible! She is the epitome of feminine. She is incredibly creative and fearless. She designs and sews her own (and her sister's) clothes. When she finds a style she likes she reinvents it with modesty in mind. She is an immense help to our family and has matured into a truly lovely young woman. She also continues to excel with piano and singing. She plans to start teaching piano lessons beginning in January.



Isaiah is fifteen! Crazy. He is incredibly gifted in all things music. He has taught himself to play the guitar and writes worship songs. Isaiah also continues to play the piano. We hear him at night singing and playing his guitar for hours. He is so passionate and tenderhearted. He and Victoria play piano, guitar, sing hymns, and worship songs together endlessly. Their musical talents and desire to worship is such a blessing to Brian and me. Truly a gift from God. Isaiah also enjoys recording music and videography.



Sarah Grace will be twelve in a few months. She is a tender, sweet young lady. She too is incredibly capable and fearless when it comes to trying new things, especially in the kitchen. She loves to bake for us and has taken up sewing and knitting. She also excels at the piano. Sarah Grace is a wonderful big sister to her younger siblings. She loves to 'do school' with Elijah and takes him under her wing.



Isabella turned ten this past fall. She began piano this year and is doing so well. She is our quiet one. Her heart runs deep and she is always watching. She LOVES to read. Isabella and Josiah are best friends and would rather be outside playing than anywhere else. She loves to play with Elijah too. She does crafts with him and takes him along on her grand adventures outside, always watching out for him.



Josiah will be nine in a few months. He is our master organizer! Not only that, but he seems to have some sort of photographic memory, and has an innate gift to know where things are. If he has seen 'it', even if only in passing, he knows right where it is! He is very detail oriented. He also loves to build things with wood. He has a very tender heart and is so sensitive to others. He loves to help with whatever projects we are working on.



Elijah just turned five. This child is incredibly smart and quick-witted. He has the funniest comebacks that make us all just roar with laughter. He loves all things tractors, John Deere tractors, to be exact. Most times, he can tell what kind of tractor is going down the road just from the sound of it. He 'builds' tractors out of pillows, chairs, boxes, sticks, anything he can think of. He adores 'doing school' with me, especially his Daily Notebook. One cool opportunity Elijah had this year; he and Josiah got to ride in a huge John Deere harvester. It was a thrill of a lifetime!



Dear Family and Friends,

December 2012

The past year has been one of those ‘whirl-wind’ years. So much has happened and has kept us hopping the entire year.

Brian and I have always dreamt of having some type of business that we could all work together and support our family. We also looked forward to the day when he would work from home. This past year was the year for both of those dreams to begin to come true.

As of January, Brian has worked from home. It is such a blessing to have him home. We are still trying to figure out what our ‘normal’ might be, and it is by no means ‘easy’, but we are so thankful for this opportunity.

God has seen fit to grow “**{re}imagined just for you**” which started out as me just having a little fun by painting furniture and then selling it. During this past year, it became increasingly obvious that, for now, we are to pursue making a ‘go’ of this furniture business.

For those of you who do not know, I hand paint antique and vintage furniture with European paints and waxes. It started out with one little ‘shabby chic’ table listed on Craigslist and has now grown into a family business in which everyone has a part. We have two huge sales a year out of our ‘barn boutique’, we have a beautiful, regular space at the Allegan Antique Market (last Sunday of each month from April-September), we were asked to be a part of the new ‘shabby chic’ section of the Michigan Antique Festival in Midland, and we offer classes and workshops. Not only do we sell our furniture, but we also do a lot of custom work, hand painted signs and home décor. Victoria makes and sells her Ruffled Messenger Bags, handmade notecards, jewelry and knitted/crocheted items.

This could not happen on the scale that it does without the help of each person in this family. While I do the painting and creating, Brian handles countless other details with the business that I cannot even begin to wrap my brain around. He and the boys are, for certain, the ‘muscle’ of the business. The children participate in the set up and tear down at each of the sales. For our classes, we serve a beautiful gourmet lunch to our students. The whole family helps in serving them. Not to mention, with me so active in the creating and running of the business, there has been a definite shift in all family and household responsibilities! Each of us learning and growing into new roles. Again,

might I reiterate, lest you think it is all sunshine and roses, well, it is not! It is hard work. However, we are so thankful.

We are humbled that He would allow us this amazing opportunity, to not only work together, but to serve others and reach them with the love of Christ. We marvel at what He has done and continues to do **in** us and **through** us. Through a furniture business, no less, we just shake our heads in wonder.

This past fall we were quite literally blown away when Kohler Expos approached us and asked if I would be willing to be a 'Featured Presenter' at the Mid-Michigan Women's Expo in Lansing and the West Michigan Women's Expo in Grand Rapids. My first reaction was, 'seriously, have you read my 'about me' page? You want *me* to do it?' I will be speaking from the main stage three times a day as well as having an enormous space to display our items. Most see it simply as an occasion to have our business promoted. We see it as a wildly crazy opportunity to reach the hearts of many women, a platform to inspire and encourage them. Yes, we will get lots of exposure, and for that, we are grateful, **but we see it as so much more.**

In addition, this past year, Brian and the boys had a great adventure, taking down a barn that was over a hundred years old. We hope to use the wood for a new "Barn Boutique" as well as building rustic furniture, hand painted signs and countless other projects I have stashed in my mind.

We continue to home school our children. What a privilege it is to have this time with them, watching them excel in certain subjects and helping them through their struggles in others.

Matthew and Elisa are blessing us with another grandchild this coming year. Baby boy Grzybowski! We are very excited. We adore our grandchildren and love to have them over. Levi comes over every Wednesday for the day and we delight to have sleepovers with Jaylin.

We wanted you to know that we appreciate you and are thankful for the blessing you have been in our lives, whether that be in the past or present. We pray that the New Year bring you **blessings upon blessings**, and that you know to the uttermost just how much our heavenly Father loves you.

Much love,

Brian, Michelle and Family