

"every good and perfect gift is from above..." (James 1:17)



# THE SMITHS



DECEMBER UPDATE 2010

## Thankful for Another Year Filled with Blessings from the Lord!

Our year began with Amabella turning 2 in January, Adeliza 1 in February, and announcing our baby #3 due in August. Our girls became little travelers as we took a road trip to Washington for Tawnya's Uncle Tim's surprise 50th birthday in late January. Then we drove to Oregon to visit Trevor's sister, Sarah, brother-in-law, Jon, and our new niece, Milah at the end of May. On June 5th Tawnya's brother, Brandon, got married to a wonderful new addition to the family, Nichole. Tawnya and Amabella were honored to be in the wedding.

The first 8 months of the year were filled with talk of and preparation for "baby sister." The girls loved to pretend to do sonograms on each others' tummies, kiss baby sister (mommy's tummy), and feel her kick or move.

I, Tawnya, awoke at 6:30 on the morning of August 5th to contractions, just before Trevor's alarm went off for work. They were mild so I told Trevor to be ready for a call if I needed him, however my mom had stayed over the night before just to help if I needed it. To keep my mind off things, we took the girls to the park for the morning. After the girls napped, we made chocolate chip cookies. I was trying to wait all day to be sure I was really in labor, but not get to the hospital too late. However, by this time the contractions were becoming more intense. After Trevor got home from

work we ate pizza, got ready, called Trevor's parents to come trade places with my mom, and headed to the hospital. We arrived at 7:05pm. The next hour was pretty rough, but my support team (Trev, mom, dad, and sis) all arrived before the baby was born at 8:09pm. Oma and Granddad (Trevor's parents) watched the girls for the evening, then my sister, Tiffany, and my mom stayed with the girls overnight and brought them to the hospital the next morning to meet their sister. Avalina Lola was named shortly after coming home from the hospital.

Tawnya was honored to be in another wedding in October, of one of her closest girlfriends, Jen, to a fabulous guy, Gabe.

Amabella and Adeliza started soccer with Sports City Lil' Kickers in the fall. Adeliza was quite advanced in her class (age 18-24mos) both in size and skill, though the same age as her peers. Amabella was very capable, but showed less interest and preferred the times when she and Adeliza got to play in the same class. Oma and Granddad were a great help, joining each week as the classes required an adult alongside the child at the beginning. The girls also participated in ballet: Amabella took two Tutus for Twos 4-week sessions and her teacher let Adeliza join in for the second 4-week session although she isn't yet two. Both girls loved ballet. Adeliza picked up on the techniques more readily, but Amabella loved

looking pretty and trying to be graceful. Auntie Tiff joined for the second session, as an adult needed to be with each child, which the girls loved. My good friend Diana and her daughter, Makenna, the girls' friend, participated in the ballet class too.

We took a trip to southern California in November to visit Tawnya's family and meet her cousin's baby, Liam. We got to see "Honk," a cute play about the Ugly Duckling put on by her cousins' (Joel and Jill) High School. The girls watched intently the entire time. We also took our first family trip to Monterey Bay Aquarium on our way home.



We continue to be blessed to attend Stony Point Christian Fellowship. The girls love going. Amabella points out our church every time we drive past it and comments that she likes it there. We have all begun to make friends and are blessed and supported by the Pastor's sermons and mid-week Bible Studies/small groups as we attend them. The church has a strong focus on marriage and family, which is especially helpful for this time in our life.

Trevor continues to work full time as a mail carrier while Tawnya works two days/week with a young woman with Autism as her home-school teacher and team trainer.



BRANDON'S WEDDING



AVALINA IS BORN



BALLET



FAMILY OF 5

# Wishing You All the Best in 2011!

Amabella is very nurturing and compassionate. She is thoughtful and remembers EVERYTHING. She has an exceptional memory always telling me who she got something from, who she bought her a particular thing, or what she did recently. Her favorite pastimes include reading her Bible (particularly about Adam and Eve, The Sneaky Snake (The Fall), David and Goliath, and Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus), dressing up, baking in her kitchen, and playing with her baby dolls. She loves being a little mommy and helping. Her favorite color is purple and she loves birthdays! She has been talking about and planning her birthday for weeks/months.

Adeliza is a boisterous, energetic, and sensitive little girl. She brings life and silliness to our home. Adeliza loves anything her sister loves. She especially enjoys helping mommy wash dishes, do laundry, and clean. She loves to make baby sister laugh, which she does rather easily. She loves music and often makes up her own words to a song.

Both big girls enjoy soccer (watching and playing it), dancing in the living room, and singing (Amabella remembers the words well while Adeliza knows the melody). They enjoy reading books and watching home videos on the iPad. Avalina loves her big sisters and special time in the evening just with mommy and daddy. She smiles all the time and is laughing more and more. She had been an easy addition to the family.

Amabella and Adeliza are both potty training and no longer use pacifiers (huge milestones in our house). We

just started allowing Avalina to use a pacifier to help her fall asleep.

The girls talk all the time! Amabella's slight speech delays have totally improved and sometimes she simply does not stop talking. (I have compassion on my parents who often said how hard it was on road trips when I just would not stop talking. I understand that better now). Adeliza has an amazing vocabulary and talks almost as much as her sister. Language is definitely a strength for her. Avalina coos and blows bubbles. She even said "mama" for the first time yesterday (although I don't think she meant to.)



December has been a month filled with fun family traditions. Tawnya and the girls baked and decorated cookies together (and ate most of them themselves), we decorated the house for Christmas, went to our church's Christmas program, hosted our annual friends Christmas party with ornament and white elephant exchanges, attempted family pictures for Christmas, colored Christmas pictures, and wrapped presents together. We celebrated Christmas as our family of 5 on Christmas Eve morning, with the Smiths/Grahams that evening, and with the Haydons in Ukiah on Christmas day. What a blessed holiday and season!

We are so thankful for each of you, our family and friends!

**May God bless and guide each of you in the coming year!**

With Love, *The Smith Family*



## THE FAMILY



TREVOR & TAWNYA



AMABELLA (35 MOS)



ADELIZA (22 MOS)



AVALINA (4 1/2 MOS)



THE WHOLE GANG