



Mary Lou (My late Dad's sister).

**William:** Turned 8 in October. He has had several visits from the tooth fairy and will be able to ask St. Nick for one of his front teeth this Christmas. He also joined the scouts. When his shirt arrived, both he and Andrew put them on promptly and I overheard William say to Andrew "Aren't we lucky, we get to be Cub Scouts!" William also had a GREAT showing at the Pinewood Derby Races... he too had help from the biggest scout in the family. He received his 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion in the spring. He still loves bugs and all things creepy-crawly. He is working toward buying his own salamander. He is very kind and generous and always willing to help with his younger siblings.



**Libby:** Turned 6 in May. She had her first, much anticipated, visit from the tooth fairy this year and too, will be able to ask St. Nick for one of her front teeth this Christmas. Lib is our expert caterpillar catcher. She caught so many that we finally had to tell her to hold off and let the captive butterflies emerge before adding any more. She sings all day long and loves to color and create! She is kind, thoughtful, and is also very helpful; she often helps me without my asking.

**Charlie:** Last winter, had his first set of stitches after sliding down a steep hill and was stopped, abruptly, by a boat lift, with his head. He is busy and curious and we expect more trips to the ER for Charlie. He turns 5 in January and has been looking forward to this day all year long! He can be found in the garage, as often as we will let him... with any and every tool permissible for a 4 year old boy... and, on occasion, some that are not. He has a kind and beautiful heart. Recently, he handed me a red rose (from a bouquet that Nate had given me) and stood there, holding the flower out, eyes closed, puckered up... irresistible!



**Thomas George:** Oh, our 3 year old boy. What a magical age. He is, by the grace of God, pretty much toilet trained. He is still such a gentle soul. When I tell him that I love him, he responds "I love you *too* much!" He loves to slide down our hill with his older siblings. His smile is intoxicating! He dresses up in his robe and plays *Yoda the super ninja hero*. He brings laughter and joy us all!

**Patrick:** Born January 13, 2011. We are so grateful for another healthy little Soley. He will turn 1 in January. Love, Love, Love. Our little Squanto! He has the most amazing smile, giggle, and beautiful coloring I have ever laid eyes on. He has olive skin and deep brown eyes. With his Mongolian spot, we can say with confidence that there is a little Indian in him. He will be walking soon, much to our chagrin! He is spoiled as there is always somebody asking to hold and love him.



**Nate:** Thankfully, is busy at work. He is busy with side projects, which have been a blessing as well. He, his Dad, and the children have been renovating a house in Waverly all summer long. What a great family project! ☺ He took the big 4 to the Wright County fair for the demolition derby as well as Lego fest. It has been a true blessing to watch Nate with our two Scouts. He is having as much fun as they are. He is an amazing husband and Father, who works so hard and loves us all so much! He continues to lead, love, and inspire us!

**Kristen:** Still having fun in our happy, little home school. I started a book club for Andrew and am having just as much fun learning and reading the classics as Andrew is (maybe even more)! I took the children to the Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum in Walnut Grove, MN over the summer (This was under the pretense of a field trip for the *children*). My attempt at a garden was not met with success this year; next year is my year! ☺

**Merry Christmas!!** Thank you for your friendship and love. We are blessed to have each of you in our lives. May God continue to be a light in your lives and may you let it shine! Nate & Kristen – Andrew, William, Libby, Charlie, Thomas, and Patrick

