

Merry Christmas to all our Family and Friends.

Gary and I have now been through our first year of marriage, and what a year it has been!

We had a great honeymoon in Cancun. We stayed in an all inclusive hotel, took a tour of Chitza Nitza, and just relaxed. We had such a good time, that we had planned to go back on our one year anniversary; until we learned that God had other plans for us!

In March we discovered that we were pregnant! On November 18, at 2:18 in the morning, we delivered our beautiful daughter, Claire Emeline. She weighed 8 pounds and 4 ounces and was 21 and  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches long. It's amazing how she has captured our hearts and changed our lives. We often just stare at her in wonder and amazement. Our God is Awesome.

Gary has really enjoyed his full time job as the Tech guy (I'm sure there's a more official title for his job) for the two middle schools in town. He has done really well, as he is a computer genius, and was chosen to be in charge of all the computer stuff for the new High School, that should be finished next year. He accepted the offer and is really excited to be in charge of setting up a new school, just the way he wants. Gary also picked up a part time job at Best Buy. He is now an official Geek, as he was hired to work in the Geek Squad. Gary says that his Best Buy job is more demanding then his full time job, but he enjoys them both, and at the same time, misses his family and hobbies(computers and sci-fi).

Gary has also been busy on Wednesday nights with the Youth Group. He is a leader for the ninth grade boys. They are a great group of kids, and he's enjoyed getting to know them. He'll be their leader for the following years of High School and hopes to be a godly example for them throughout the years.

I had been working at Panera Bread, about 20 minutes from home, as an Assistant Manager, but was transferred to the local Panera in the Summer. It was nice to work only five minutes from home, and Gary was able to stop in often when I was working. I continued to work, 50 hours a week, right up until the day before my due date! Now I'm taking three months off and will return to work, one day a week, in February.

Though we didn't make it to Cancun this year, we were able to take a trip to Michigan in the summer. We stayed with my sister, April and her husband Mark for about 3 days. It was so nice to spend time with her, as we are lucky if we see her twice a year. On the way home, we stopped at the Wisconsin Dells for a few days; it was a great trip.

We pray you have a blessed Christmas, with whomever you are spending it with; remembering what God did for us, by sending his son. For Gary and I, we see that gift in a different light this year and are all the more thankful.

Keep up on our lives throughout the year at our website: [www.thebloks.com](http://www.thebloks.com)