

## 2008 Milestones and Check Points

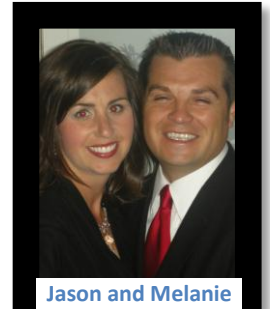
I know it's cliché to say where did the time go, but that is exactly all I can ask about 2008. There were a lot of milestones that reminded me of how quick time moves on. My body recently reminded me that I am no longer 20, as my performance at the annual Thanksgiving Turkey Bowl, was followed up by days of soreness and pain. I attended my 20 year High School Reunion this year. How in the world did that happen? While it was great to see old friends, it has been impossible to reconcile the passing of time. We celebrated 15 years of marriage this year. Melanie and I got away for

an overnight in NYC and got to see the play, Wicked, and eat at Gramercy Tavern. Gotta have the Ginger Swizzle!

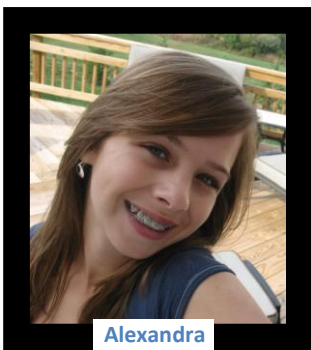
If there is anything that reminds us of how quickly time marches on, it is the lives of our kids. My daughters are all getting older too quickly. They carved their own pumpkins and made the sugar cookies this year, that's huge! Everyone whose kids have passed this checkpoint remind me that these are the good days, but man, are they packed!



Jason with some high school friends



Jason and Melanie



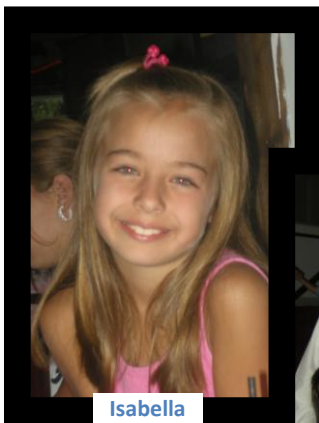
Alexandra

Alexandra (13) is now in her last year of middle school. She is enjoying days at the barn and on the trails with our horse, Petey. Yeah, after many months of searching, and some scary test rides, we found the horse of our dreams! We got him on July 4<sup>th</sup> and all the girls are in love! She continues to be an outstanding artist. She loves to draw, sketch, and is quite the photographer. We are so thankful that Alexandra is a serious student and extremely responsible. She is the best big sister!

Victoria (10) is in her final year of elementary school. She and Isabella had a great opportunity this year to break in a brand new school. Victoria will be the first graduating class of Greenville Elementary. She is in the school choir, has been playing softball, and the piano. She is very proud that she can trot Petey on her own in the ring. Victoria still loves babies; seriously, she can't seem to get enough. Too bad we won't give in and give her another sibling.



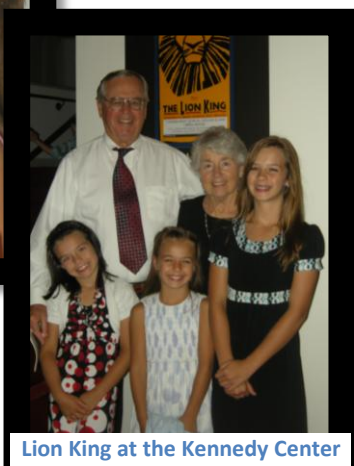
Victoria



Isabella

Isabella (8) is now in third grade. She's taking ballet and was a Soldier Doll and Lollypop in the Children's Nutcracker this month. She was baptized in July and that marked another major

milestone. Our youngest child is not so young anymore! Grandma and Grandpa Campbell came for the festivities and took us to see "The Lion King" at the Kennedy Center. She started piano lessons this year, and keeps a mean beat on the drums. She is the queen of "one liners" and keeps us laughing. All the girls helped start up a 4-H club called, "Footprints and Hoofprints," and they are all doing a horse project and will be raising chickens starting in the spring.

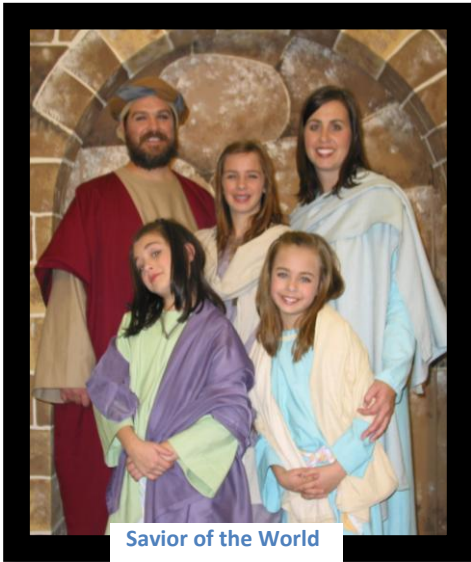


Lion King at the Kennedy Center

Melanie seems to be timeless, and continues to act as the compass for our family. She was able to get away this fall for a Campbell Women's Retreat to celebrate her mom's birthday. All of the 5 sisters converged upon Utah and had a great time. Upon her insistence, we spent the last 3 months rehearsing as a family every Saturday for the production, Savior of the World, His Birth and Resurrection, that our church performed. We set out to be part of the 150+ person cast and crew, and ended up that Victoria



The Campbell Girls



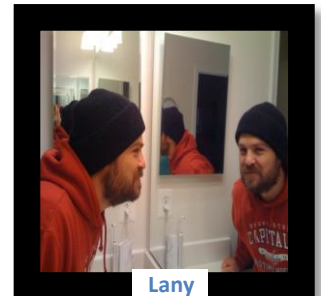
Savior of the World

and I received the opportunity to have speaking parts and we all were part of the chorus. What a memorable experience!

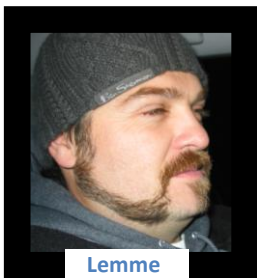
It is a play that tells the story of Christ. His birth is the focal point for the first act and His resurrection is the focal point of the second act. It was a wonderful way to spend our time. It was hard to add the many rehearsals into our already hectic schedule, but the feelings I had, and my testimony of Jesus Christ truly was increased. It is truly wonderful to take pause and celebrate His birth at this time of year.

My work life has never been busier, as my old company merged into my current company called, Evergreen Systems Inc. It has been a transition, but green is good!

For the play, I was asked to grow a beard. This is by far the most facial hair I have ever had.



Lany



Lemme

I decided to step down after the play, so phase 1, full beard modeled after "the Lany McDonald Stanley Cup playoff beard", and then to "the Lemme from the band, Motorhead," and who knows what's next.

It's funny that I spend most of my time on the phone or typing, and I don't have a single picture of me doing either. ☺ Other highlights of 2008 include Rock Band, the annual Memorial Weekend camping trip at Virginia Beach. Aunt Laurie coming to stay with the girls while

Melanie and I spent a week in Las Vegas. She painted half our house while we were gone!!! Vacationing in Utah, as my family put on the Wood Reunion, next we had a blast at the first Whitesides Reunion, and we also were able to attend the Burton Reunion. All good things come in 3's. It was a great year for me, because I also got to see all my brothers and sisters at my niece, Malinda's wedding. We really enjoyed the visits from family and friends this year and hope to see more of you in 2009. Our home is always open and the gaming is always on.



Whitesides Family