

# Weaver's Wanderings

December 2009

Dear Family and Friends,

As we just passed Thanksgiving and are headed into the Christmas season we are reminded of all that we are thankful for. Also as we close out another decade (where did the 2000s go!?) we are looking back to see how God has directed our paths. Read on to share in our joy and thanksgiving of all that God has done in our lives. For those who have walked with us, we are grateful to you for your love and friendship! :)

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## Life at a Glance!

It has been five months since our last newsletter. So much has happened since then. September ushered in the start of the academic year at MIT, where we both work. October was filled with Global Awareness Week planning team meetings for the November event at the church we attend, as well as our 15<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. November kicked off with Global Awareness Week at Grace Chapel and the month wrapped up with news of Candy's father's transition to nursing care due to extreme dementia like episodes. And here we are mid-December with parties with friends behind us and Christmas visits to family and the Urbana Conference in front of us. It is a full journey the Lord takes us on, and we wouldn't change a minute of it, as he blesses us through every moment no matter what the circumstance. Still, we wait on God's provision to bring us through the journeys of life.

## A Decade in Review!

We strongly believe in looking back to see what God has done and lessons we can learn for future endeavors. With the decade closing in less than 15 days it seems an appropriate time to review the last decade and see what all transpired and what we learned from it. For those who have walked with us the last decade you know much has happened and it would take a small book to recount all that took place. So below is a short highlight summary.

We will start in February 1999, when Tim received a call from Boston Scientific to apply for a job in Redmond, WA (just outside Seattle, WA). At that time we were settled in at Penn State and helping out with Alliance Christian Fellowship, a thriving student ministry on Penn State's campus. Initial thoughts led us to say no, but persistence by Boston Scientific and the Lord's leading led to Tim accepting the job in late April. In May, while we were leading a missions trip to the Dominican

## Prayer Requests & Praises!

- \* Praise for a great GAW at church!
- \* Praise for God's hand in our lives.
- \* Praise both Candy & Tim have pretty good job security!
- \* Praise that Tim doesn't have to take a week off without pay in January!
- \* Pray for us as we seek direction over the coming year.
- \* Pray for Candy's family as her father enters nursing care.
- \* Pray for the doctors as they get Dad MacPherson's medication correct.
- \* Pray for the strategic planning team at Grace Chapel as we seek the Lord's direction for the regional and global outreach program at the church.

**Pictures** - There are more pictures at our website [www.tcweaver1.com](http://www.tcweaver1.com) click on the photos tab to the left.



Global Awareness Week - Nov 2009



Candy Hunter Pace - Oct 2009



Ireland Trip - June 2009



Candy's Harvard graduation-June 2009

Republic, our house in PA sold for the full offering price. We quickly came home and flew to Washington in early June and by God's grace found a single wide mobile home on five acres of land in the middle of nowhere. Our late June move to WA included us helping the former owners move out our new home. This opportunity allowed us to get to know people who went to the Duvall Church, which became our home church for the next seven years.

Candy in particular questioned the move, wondering why God would uproot us from a great ministry and jobs and move us clear across the country. God in his ultimate timing led us to help set up a summer camp where we met a few college students from the church. As we conversed we learned that they had been trying to start a college ministry for a couple years, which is what we had been doing for the last three years at PSU. So in October 1999 with the help of Mike & Liz Boone, RACE (Reaching After Christ's Example) was born. The group of students ran between 20-45 as we met on Saturday evenings at the Boone's house. We had a great time running that ministry, hanging out with college students, training leaders, crazy events, etc. The ministry eventually wound down in early 2003 as many of the students moved on to other things (i.e. marriage, college).

In July 2000, exactly one year after Tim started working for Boston Scientific, they announced a global re-organization of the company, which ultimately led to Tim's lay off in September 2001 (what timing!). Tim began an exploration of what the future held for him in career and focus. Initially, he had more time to devote to the ministries at the Duvall Church including the college group and missions committee. Over the years, Tim was on the missions committee at the church and then in 2005 and 2006 he led the committee as they worked through a new missions policy and structure for the program. He also consulted in the medical device field, but ultimately decided on working to merge his career with his ministry passions. That led to volunteering and then contracting at World Vision in 2004-2005, where he got into the field of fundraising and development. That position ultimately ended, but led to a position at the University of Washington (UW) in 2005. Although the path was very bumpy, with times of unemployment and underemployment, and not always clear, in hindsight we can see God's hand clearly in charge. Opening some doors and closing others.

In the meantime Candy had her job challenges. In late 2001 the software company she worked for was under financial pressure and reduced everyone's work hours. Even with the reduced hours they were unable to stay afloat and in February 2002 Candy was laid off. Candy began her own career exploration and started her own horse riding academy at a local farm. It ran for a little over a year and ended after the owners of the farm sold the farm. She did some temp work until she landed a position as an aide and Spanish teacher at the Duvall Christian School (DCS). Candy started the pursuit of her associates degree at Cascadia Community College with the intention of getting a bachelor's degree and becoming a teacher. She also continued to teach riding at a new barn while working at the DCS and going to school taking most of her classes online. To say the least she kept herself busy with long work and study hours.

This leads us up to 2006 when Candy was awarded the USA Today All-Academic Scholarship award for community college students. She was one of two people selected from her college to be entered into the Washington state competition. Candy met the governor of Washington and received a \$750 scholarship at the state level, but didn't make the



Gamer group weekend in Vermont



MacPherson Christmas - 2008



Weaver Christmas - 2008



ACF Reunion - Summer 2008



Phil & Candy in WA - Sept 2008



The New Duvall Church - Sept 2008

cut for the national scholarship. The award led to an onslaught of invitations to attend schools from all across the country. She was already prepared to finish her degree at the University of Washington and was tossing all the applications in the trash. But while Tim was on a missions trip to Guatemala, Candy received a small invitation from Harvard University to come and complete her degree at their extension school; they were offering a full ride scholarship for the first semester. After much investigation and prayer we decided to move forward and attempt to move to the Boston area to take advantage of the opportunity.

In approximately 60 days we needed to sell our house, have Tim get a job in MA, and Candy get formally accepted for her scholarship at Harvard. We figured if any two out of those three things happened then God was leading us to go. We listed the house and after three weeks the house went under agreement, with an August 31st closing date. Tim had contacts at UW that knew people who worked in fundraising and development at Harvard, MIT, and Brown. They put in a good word for Tim, which led to job interviews at all three universities in mid-August. Candy also received her formal scholarship acceptance, so it looked like we were all set. We traveled to Boston in mid-August, Tim interviewed while Candy scoped out neighborhoods for an apartment. We found a first floor apartment in a three family house in Belmont, MA, near public transportation. We traveled back to Washington to pack up and say our goodbyes.

On August 29th as we were packing the moving truck our realtor called and told us that the buyer's financing had fallen through and we would not be closing on the 31st. GULP! Now what! Well it was too late to turn back. We were packed and had a place to stay in MA. So we set off on an eight day journey across America stopping to see a few national parks along the way and arrived in MA on September 8th. At this point our house was on the market, Tim did not have any firm job offers; it looked like things were really going to fall apart. But our God is faithful! In late September our realtor found a buyer who bought our place with cash and wanted to close quickly! We closed on our home on October 11th. A few days after the call Tim received an offer to work at MIT and started working on October 4th. I'll admit at the time we were both very worried, but now see God stretching our faith and ultimately coming through on all aspects of our move to Massachusetts.

We continue to keep busy in the Boston area, now here for a little over three years. Candy was going to school part time in the evenings, and starting in the spring of 2007 she also started a job at MIT. Her job paid for the rest of her classes at Harvard. God was so good to allow her to get a great education while allowing us to pay off debt that accumulated while we were unemployed and underemployed. Tim works at MIT and connected with the global outreach program at Grace Chapel serving on their international missions advisory committee. He is also involved in a strategic planning task force that is looking at how Grace Chapel does regional and global outreach, and how to move forward into the future.

Right now the economy is looking shaky again and many people are unemployed and/or underemployed. One scripture that I was reminded of that helped us as we walked through our own little personal recession from 2002-2004 was II Corinthians 4:16-18 - Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them



Tim visiting the Keisers in CO - 2008



Nepal Trip - Jan 2008



ACF Marriage Retreat - Oct 2007



Darryl's wedding - Sept 2007



Church Dedication - May 2006

all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

We are at the point where we are asking God what's next? We hope to get some time during Urbana to start discerning that and ask that you keep us in prayer as we seek out the next steps for our lives! If you have not been getting our Weaver's Wanderings email updates email us at [tcweaver1@earthlink.net](mailto:tcweaver1@earthlink.net) and ask us to sign you up, or visit our website [www.tcweaver1.com](http://www.tcweaver1.com) and click on the newsletters tab on the left hand side. Once on the newsletter page you can sign up for our newsletter and/or to be added to our prayer supporter list.

#### Candy's Update

As we move closer to Christmas, Tim and I are preparing for our time with family in Lancaster as well as our trip to the Urbana conference . I am anxious to see God's providence within the situation with my father's move to a nursing facility and we are anxious to see what God has in store for us as we attend the Urbana Conference this year. Tim and I continue to pursue our passion for mobilizing people in the context of missions and hope to gain more insight into the shift in missions from a western approach to a global approach. One global missions leader is quoted as saying " western written texts on missions are soon to be obsolete in the future of global mission efforts." This intrigues both of us and we are eager to hear what other mission minded people are thinking about the future of global missions and how God might use us in an ever changing paradigm.

#### Tim's Update

Most of my time since our last update was consumed with Global Awareness Week (GAW) at Grace Chapel. This involved leading the planning team with Candy and organizing the event with 18 regional and global missions partners attending the weeklong conference. Much time and effort went into the week, but overall the week was a success and our efforts were well received. Since early November I have been catching up on things that dropped by the wayside as we were busy with GAW. We also found out that I will not have to take another week off without pay in January, which is a big praise!

#### Check Out Our Website Or Friend Us On Facebook!

We launched a website a while back that will hopefully aid us as we try to keep in contact with an ever increasing number of people. Check it out at [www.tcweaver1.com](http://www.tcweaver1.com). We have a blog there as well that we update in between newsletters! We love to hear what's going on in your lives as well. Email us any time at either [tim@tcweaver1.com](mailto:tim@tcweaver1.com) or [candy@tcweaver1.com](mailto:candy@tcweaver1.com).

We are also both on Facebook! You can "friend" us and keep in touch that way as well.

#### Prayer Partners Needed

We have at different times tried to create an ongoing group of people that would be willing to pray for us on an ongoing basis. As we look to the future we realize that we really need to make a concerted effort to make that happen. If you would like to receive more frequent (1 to 2 times per month) short updates with prayer and praise items please email us at [tcweaver1@earthlink.net](mailto:tcweaver1@earthlink.net) to be added to our prayer partner list.

God bless you, Merry Christmas & Happy New Years

*Tim & Candy Weaver*



Candy with WA state governor - 2006



Sundance Equestrians - '03-'06



Tim working at World Vision '04-'05



Easter 2004



Climbing Mt. Si - 2002



China - Jan 2002

