

## **REFLECTING** on our incredible "journey" throughout **2009** . . .

In addition to the usual special days throughout 2009 . . . birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, granddaughters' sports and special events . . . we have also had some special opportunities that only GOD could arrange!

In **June** we had the privilege of having our granddaughters - Breann (age 12) and Annika (age 9) - with us for 3 weeks while Rachelle & Gordon went to Rwanda on a Work & Witness trip (then we all met at General Assembly in Orlando). We decided to have an ADVENTURE . . . we flew into Sacramento to spend a few days with Bob's brother and sister-in-law - neither of them had never seen Breann and Annika. Then we flew down to Houston for a few days with Ruth's brother and sister-in-law. These were very special times of reunion!

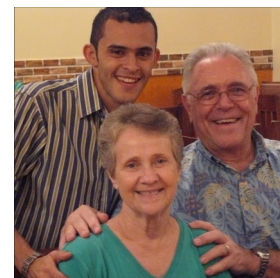


After these two "reunions" we began our drive from Houston to Orlando . . . (Remember: we're living in Hawaii where we can drive around the island in 4 hours, and now here we're on this trip of 1,100 miles . . . what an experience!)

We planned to leisurely drive part of each day, and just enjoy the journey . . . Our adventure began - the girls were terrific and never complained - it was fun to see things through their eyes! We took lots of pictures to capture our experiences. With these two girls, one never knew when a picture would be taken - ready or not! Laughter was a big part of our day!

We planned our arrival in Orlando about the time of Gordon & Rachelle's return from Rwanda - just a few days before the General Assembly activities began. Robb & Stacy flew down from Nashville to join us for some FUN. It was a great time together!

In **October** we were able to go to Cali, Colombia - another incredible experience! Our lives will be forever changed - we hope to take a group of our pastors/spouses from Hawaii next year for this annual conference.



In **November** we took a quick trip to Nashville for Bob's 40<sup>th</sup> class reunion at Trevecca Nazarene University - and, of course, we spent a few days with Robb & Stacy! **Robb** continues to work as a school counselor, and **Stacy** now is a physician/professor at Vanderbilt Hospital and University.

Then 5 days after our return home, we flew to Phoenix for a "surprise" party for **Rich**, celebrating his completion of his 2<sup>nd</sup> Masters' Degree. He is working as a multisystemic therapist, and **Amanda** is a nurse at the Children's Hospital in Phoenix.

We realize that all the many blessings we enjoy are gifts from our heavenly Father, and we are indeed grateful - we are truly blessed! This Christmas season reminds us of LOVE - God's love that is indescribable! *May you experience HIS presence throughout this most wonderful time of the year!*

**-No sleigh rides, no snow men, like you see on a Christmas card  
-but we got a lot of Christmas in our hearts!**

**It's Christmas once again in Honolulu - There is not a snow flake to be found!**