



Isaac's Year (9th grade; 5'10.5")

Best books read: *Start Here; Seven Men; I John; How to Win Friends and Influence People*

Things I enjoy: reading books and watching MSU football with Dad

Good 2013 memory: being baptized by Dad (see photo)

This year I learned: knowing God is more important than anything else

To relax I like to: listen to Tim Keller and Phil Vischer podcasts

I'm thankful: I'm a child of God

Interesting places visited: Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; Coke Museum, Atlanta

Best food tasted: wild raspberry crisp; Deluca's pizza

Best GGF (Great Grandma Frantz – 97 years old) quote: I asked, "Where are you going, Grandma?" She said, "I don't know, but I'm not getting there!"

Unexpected blessing: getting a scholarship to take the Dale Carnegie Course

Goal for 2014: in February I'll be a graduate assistant for the Dale Carnegie Course

Fun thing: seeing *The Hobbit* with my youth group; meeting John Piper and Kevin DeYoung

Thoughts on GGF: I love it when she sings newspaper articles. Articles about Detroit's bankruptcy make great songs!

Bible verse I like: "But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong." I John 1:9 (NLT)



Lily's Perspective (11th grade; 5' 6")

Best books read: *Mayor of Casterbridge; The Hobbit; Lord of the Rings Trilogy; The Scarlet Letter; Risk is Right* by John Piper; *Crazy Busy* by Kevin DeYoung; *The Good Earth; The Fallacy Detective, Oliver Twist*

Unexpected blessing: Extra time with Dad while he recovered from surgery

Things I enjoy: playing Quizbusters and MSU Quizbowl with my brother, Isaac! being with friends; listening to Piano Guys and Rend Collective Experiment; listening to podcasts: Tom Nelson; Good Job Brain; Ask Me Another; Brain Stuff;

Thinking in Public; The Briefing by Al Mohler

Good 2013 memories: winning a week-long mock trial competition; earning the John Quincy Adams award, designing a pro-life billboard (see photo); graduating from the Dale Carnegie Course

This year I learned: how to play the dulcimer

To relax I like to: be creative in many forms: music, card making, video editing, "pintristing", and neologizing (making up new words!)

Interesting place visited: Middlebury, Virginia (the cutest town ever!); Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island

Thoughts on GGF: She's like Gandalf, she just gets older and older and more wrinkled but continues living on and on and on!

Fun things: Sola 13 Conference; shopping with Mom; my kitty, Opie

Goal for 2014: to start my senior year out on the right foot; to finish reading the unabridged *Les Miserables*; to complete a volunteer program helping 6th graders in Ovid/Elsie elementary school

Bible verse I like: "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me." II Corinthians 12:9 (NIV)



Naomi's Perspective

Big news: In January Mayo Clinic correctly diagnosed and treated my thyroid, thus ruling out heart disease for me. I'm thankful that God gave me a new lease on life!

New occupation: I feel like a nurse. ☺
Tim had 8 minor surgeries, plus back surgery. Lily and Isaac had all their wisdom teeth removed plus 2 minor surgeries for Lily and 4 minor surgeries for Isaac. I also had 3 minor surgeries myself!

I'm thankful: Our insurance paid 100 percent for our medical procedures after mid-January.

Fun thing: Grandma Frantz reads her Bible out loud for hours. I love

hearing her read when I work in the kitchen. Paging through her Bible, she said, "There is a lot about God in here – page after page about God. God THIS and God THAT!" In January we start our 6th year taking care of sweet Grandma Frantz, who just outlived Nelson Mandela! Grandma Frantz is cheerful and happy every day!

My hero: Tim is my hero! He saved Grandma Telloyan's life by giving her the Heimlich when she was choking.

Special joy: I love working on projects and events with Lily and Isaac, who continue to be increasingly joyful and capable.

Bible verse I like is: STAND FIRM "Let nothing move you . . . because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." I Corinthians 15:58 (NLT)

Tim's Perspective

Shoveling snow changed my life! At least it feels like it certainly made it different! After hurting my back shoveling 10 months ago, my health gradually declined until I was unable to sit or drive. I had to either lie down or stand everywhere. To the right is a picture of me on the ferry on the way to visit Mackinac Island. Outside the house, I used a cane to help get around. Therapy and injections didn't work, but on November 11 back surgery to fix a ruptured disk seems to have helped.

Doing my church work has been a challenge. One thing I couldn't do was spend time with kids in AWANA, our children's Bible club. Last Wednesday, I was finally able to do that again. When I sat down to sing with the 3 and 4 year-old class, one of the little boys leaned over and said to the teacher, "Looks like we got a new guy!" In some ways I feel like a new guy. I'm starting to get stronger and healthier and better in every way.

In early November I was able to take my first class on site at Grace Seminary in Winona Lake, Indiana, as I begin working towards my next degree, a Doctor of Ministry. All the reading and writing as well as personal interaction with Dr. Thrasher has been refreshing. I look forward to a couple more classes in 2014, too!

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever.

Ephesians 3:20-21 (ESV)

