



Please update your records with our "new" address. Rest assured, we haven't moved! It's just that our county recently implemented 911 service, which required everyone to have an actual street address. So, if you need to let the volunteer fire department know our barn's on fire (again), here's where to send them:

The Stembridges · 1723 Township Road 600E · Toulon, IL 61483
ed@peachtreeprairie.com · beth@peachtreeprairie.com
309.678.8080 (ed cell) · 309.678.8079 (beth cell)

“ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ”

A bright, happy Christmas from Peachtree Prairie Farms!

2009 has been an incredible year for our family—challenging in many ways, but also very joyful throughout. The Lord is good!

Chad is now 20 and will be heading to Charleston, SC in January to work full time on filmmaking projects with a close friend who both started a film and video production business together this past summer—they have already been blessed with a number of projects. They also co-produced a new Christian film over the summer called “Bros”. Information is on their site at blockonestudios.com/films. Chad still enjoys playing viola and violin, too.



Tyler, now 17, worked part time at an organic produce farm as well as at our local library. He still plays cello in a quartet with friends. About three weeks after getting his permanent drivers license, he was driving our “newer” minivan through a thunderstorm on the way from Georgia to Chicago (with Beth and Chad), and the van was directly struck by lightning, which blew out two tires, melted the antenna and fried all the electronics, totaling the van. Everyone was safe (praise the Lord!), and we replaced the van with a similar used one later in the summer. Ty continues to manage our farm livestock, now up to six goats, one horse and 40+ hens, and also enjoys drawing house plans.

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Beth did a fabulous (back-breaking!) job this year with our large ‘truck’

garden plus bushels and bushels of apples, in addition to all the normal home-keeping activities. She and the boys work at the Peoria Rescue Mission every Friday serving lunch and sorting clothes. Her new kitchen in the old farmhouse is nearing completion, which I know she will enjoy.



I'm very thankful to remain employed (at least as of this writing!), even though I had to take some time off without pay this year. God abundantly provides! It was a super-wet year in Central Illinois, which made all farming work very difficult and kept the cellar full of puddles all Spring. There is still unharvested corn in places around us due to the continued rains all summer and fall.

Numerous equipment breakdowns plagued me all year, we almost burned our hay barn down and every hay crop got rained on (not good for quality). However, the Lord gave us much joy through it all.



Other highlights included a wonderful time with extended family celebrating my grandmother's 100th birthday, a great trip to coastal GA with my sons and my Dad to the annual Submarine Veterans Memorial Service, great encouragement and fellowship in our small-but-growing house church and joyful visits from missionaries, family and friends throughout the year.

We welcome you to “invite yourself over” if you're ever in the area, or drop us an email or note from time to time to let us know what you're up to. Lord bless and keep you in 2010!

The Stembridges

