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# KLETKE NEWSLETTER

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## A New Beginning

Well this letter has taken much longer than I had originally anticipated (am I starting to sound like a broken record). This time I'll chalk it up to naivety. It was obviously naïve of me to believe that within a week or so of Dietrich being born that I would have the time and energy to put out a monthly newsletter. In fact, its two months later and I'm just now getting around to it.

So much has happened since we last wrote and, oh, how things have changed. Dietrich arrived on September 25th at 2 minutes after midnight. It was a rather short labor for Tricia, but VERY intense. Talk to her sometime and she can give you the inside scoop and what drugs the hospitals use and how well they alter your mental state. Tricia and Dietrich spent two full days recuperating in the hospital before coming home on Tuesday afternoon; and from there, life has been a non-stop whirlwind tour of family and events. Dietrich was baptized on October 23<sup>rd</sup> surrounded by family and friends; I even had the privilege of preaching the sermon that Sunday morning. My mother stayed around for a couple of weeks after the baptism and as soon as my quarter ended at school, we left for two weeks of vacation in Denver. We just got home a couple of days ago, and as school is starting back up, it looks like we will finally be able to settle down and catch our breath. Pictures of Dietrich, from birth through Thanksgiving, can be seen on our family website at <http://www.kletke.com>.

The fall quarter was probably the toughest quarter I have had yet, primarily because of Dietrich; but with the help of Tricia and both our mothers, I was able to spend the last few weeks concentrating solely on school work. The grades have not come in yet, but I think I was able to squeak by in most of my classes. My Systematics I class, which examined the doctrine of God the Father and creation, was especially rewarding and I am eagerly looking forward to Systematics II, the study of Christ. The winter term began this past Monday and it looks to be a busy but rewarding quarter. I have four classes: St. Augustine and his times; Systematics II; Exodus and the Torah; & LCMS History. The two history classes, Augustine and LCMS, will both require a lot of reading, and I am certainly not the fastest reader in the world; but they should both be very engaging which will keep me interested and focused – plus, I have got Christmas break to catch up.

Tricia continues to learn her new role as mother and is getting better every day. Somehow, she just instinctively knows what to do and when. It really is amazing to watch. I am not quite sure whether she is looking forward to going back to work or not, but I know that I am nervous because that means that I will have to watch Dietrich during the day when I am not in classes – and I don't have that motherly instinct. Please pray for our family during that transition at the first of the year.

Our Christmas plans have not been firmly established yet, but we are going back to Boston mid-December. It has been almost two years since we left and there are so many people to see (and so much lobster to eat). We look forward to seeing everyone again and introducing them to Dietrich.

Tricia, Dietrich and I would also like to thank everyone who has supported us over the last few weeks and months. We have been so incredibly blessed by countless friends and family who have watched over us closely and blessed us with so many prayers and gifts. We have tried very hard to stay on top of all the thank you notes, but if by chance we have missed one or two, please know that we are extremely grateful. Thank you. We pray that all is going well for you and your family and may God richly bless you throughout the Advent and Christmas season.

In His Care,  
Dan & Tricia



## Tricia's Corner

I had no idea what a life changing event having a baby could be. I know many people told me that this would happen, but I have to say I really didn't get it until now. Gone are the days of snuggling in front of the TV and making it through a movie without falling asleep. Gone are the days of sleeping in on Saturday mornings. Gone are the days of hopping in the car and running a quick errand. However, we now have moments of watching a beautiful baby sleep, moments of seeing him smile and coo for the first time (it's more of a goo really), and changing a diaper without seeing his aerodynamic peeing abilities.

Being a mom is the hardest thing I've ever done. Perhaps it's the analytical scientist in me but I tend to enjoy order. Having a baby in the house brings chaos, not order. Silly me, I thought when you changed a diaper it stayed changed at least for a couple of minutes. Silly me, I thought when you put a baby to sleep he stayed asleep. Silly me, I thought a happy baby stays happy. I remember thinking, how hard can it be, you change diapers and feed him. Well, I was wrong. It is a constant challenge at the beginning to know what he wants. The cries seem to crawl right through you. The good thing is that every day gets a little better. We learn something new about each other all the time. How he likes to be burped, that he smacks his lips when he's done eating, he doesn't like a wet diaper at all, and how what a great invention mechanical swings are. Thank God for moms who stay, make dinner and do laundry. What a treasures and life savers they are.

All in all, he is a good baby. We are able to soothe him when he's not happy. It may take a while but it can be done. He'll take a bottle when grandma baby sits or when mom needs a break. He also loves the car and sleeps most every time he's in it. This made the 13 hour trip to Denver especially manageable.

He is a blessing and treasure. I can't wait to see what kind of a person he will become.

Love,  
Tricia

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**KELLY SHEA'S BIRTHDAY**

NOVEMBER 7

**ANDREW KLETKE'S BIRTHDAY**

NOVEMBER 14

**THANKSGIVING DAY**

NOVEMBER 24

**BRUCE & MONICA KLETKE'S 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

NOVEMBER 30

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

DECEMBER 25

**BETHANNY LYON'S BIRTHDAY**

DECEMBER 30

**MARK & RACHEL LYON'S ANNIVERSARY**

DECEMBER 31



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*We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed. 1 Corinthians 15:51*

*Dietrich's theme verse – thanks Uncle Jay.*

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